# Special Issue on Tibet Solidarity · Development · Prosperity

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# FORUM ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF TIBET, CHINA

# **CHINA INFO**



### Forum on Tibet's development held in Beijing

**A** forum on the development of Tibet was held on May 23, 2023 in Beijing to pool wisdom for the continued development of the autonomous region in southwest China.

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### Xi sends congratulatory letter to forum on development of Tibet



President Xi Jinping sent a congratulatory letter to a forum on the development of Tibet that opened on May 23, 2023 in Beijing.

"People's happiness is the ultimate human right, while development holds the key to delivering better lives to the people," Xi noted in the letter to "2023 Forum on the Development of Tibet, China."

# FORUM ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF TIBET, CHINA

# **CHINA INFO**

### World should see Tibet's development, foreign diplomats and experts say

Ahead of the 2023 Forum on the Development of Tibet, which was held in Beijing on May 23, 2023, a group of foreign diplomats, scholars and experts paid a one-week trip to Tibet, learning about the traditional cultures, ecology and the life of the herdsmen and farmers there. The visitors were impressed by the plateau landscapes in Tibet, as well as the fast development in the region.

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### Column: Inspiring high-quality development in Tibet



# by Maria Gustava, Ambassador of Mozambique to the People's Republic of China

In Tibet, I witnessed people's strong commitment to accelerate their efforts in the promotion of high-quality development through more work, conservation of the ecology, and their maintenance of peace and stability to consolidate the achievements made so far in poverty alleviation toward a united, prosperous, culturally advanced, harmonious, and beautiful Tibet.

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### **Column: Feelings from Tibet**

#### by Guillaume Guibe, a French employee of China Petrochemical Corporation

Tibet, once a feudal and very large subdeveloped region, is now on the track of modernity and prosperity, has performed sustainable investments which will secure value for many generations, and all of this by preserving a unique multimillennium cultural heritage and through the protection of its environment." said Guillaume Guibe, a French employee of China Petrochemical Corporation.



# FORUM ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF TIBET, CHINA



# **CHINA INFO**

Indian scholar impressed with development in China's Tibet



**F**rom infrastructure to high-speed railways, an Indian scholar attending a forum in China on the development of the Tibet Autonomous Region said he was impressed with what he's witnessed in the region.

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# Fijian ambassador hails China's efforts in balancing development and tradition in Tibet



**F**ijian Ambassador to China Manasa R. Tagicakibau has hailed China's efforts in preserving traditional Tibetan culture and lifestyle while boosting economic development in the country's Tibet Autonomous Region.

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# Development of China's Tibet impressive, says Somali teacher



**S**omali teacher Abdilahi Ismail Abdilahi said earlier this week in Nyingchi City that he is impressed by the rapid development in China's Tibet when stepping foot in the autonomous region for the first time. Pakistani journalist impressed with education in China's Tibet



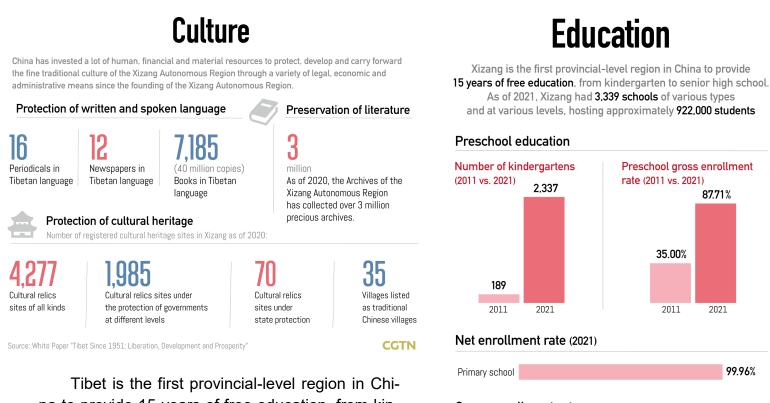
"The education standard here is very high. And we visited the primary school, and it was so encouraging." A senior journalist from Pakistan has been impressed with the education standard in China's Tibet, after making a visit to Nyingchi in the region.

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# **CHINA INFO**

### Chart of the Day: All-round progress of cultural and education industries in Tibet

In honor of the 72th anniversary of the peaceful liberation of Tibet, "Chart of the Day" takes a deep dive on Tibet 's cultural and educational achievements.



na to provide 15 years of free education, from kindergarten to senior high school. According to the data from Tibet Education Department, Tibet had 3,339 schools of various types and at various levels, hosting approximately 922,000 students in 2021, and the completion rate for the compulsory education of Tibet reached 96.94 percent.

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#### Gross enrollment rate (2021)



#### Completion rate for compulsory education (2021)

	96.94%
Source: Xizang Education Department	CGTN

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# **CHINA INFO**

### Digital technologies update Tibet's cultural protection work



Now, with a few clicks on the regional library's website, one can easily access its database of Tibetan documents. The database covers texts including biographies of ancient Tibetan scholars and monks of various sects of Tibetan Buddhism, historical Tibetan documents, and documents recording the history of exchanges between Tibet and other regions of China. The rich content of the texts spans mainly from the 12th to the 20th centuries.

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### Boarding schools ensure fairer education in Tibet

The boarding school system in southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region has ensured that both rural and urban students can equally receive quality education and the will of the parents and students is fully respected when choosing to live in the schools or not, China Daily reported, citing opinions of experts on education.



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Children in Tibet enjoy better education resources

Thanks to the free education policy implemented by the government in 1985, as of 2021, it has benefited nearly 9 million students in Tibet, with the government investing over 20 billion yuan (about 2.8 billion U.S. dollars) in total. Currently, Tibet has also expanded this policy to preschool education.

# **CHINA INFO**

### China passes landmark law to protect Qinghai-Tibet Plateau ecosystem



Chinese lawmakers voted on April 26,2023 to adopt a law on ecological conservation on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau. The law, passed at a standing committee session of the National People's Congress, the top legislature, will take effect on Sept. 1.

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### China's Tibet saw stable, improved ecological environment in 2022

Southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region released its latest report, which showed that Tibet remained one of the best regions in the world in regard to the ecological environment quality in 2022. Tibet experienced an average of 99.5 percent of the year with good air quality, according to the report released by the regional ecology and environment department.

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### With unique culture and scenery, Tibet looks to become top tourist destination



Tibet is rich in tourism resources, with its majestic mountains and rivers, magnificent grasslands and forests and profound ethnic and religious culture. Activities such as Nyingchi Peach Blossom Festival and Lhasa Shoton (yogurt banquet) Festival have become widely known among tourists.

# **CHINA INFO**

### China launches scientific expedition to Mt. Qomolangma

**C**hinese scientists have started a scientific expedition to the Mount Qomolangma region in southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region, as part of the second comprehensive scientific expedition to the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau.

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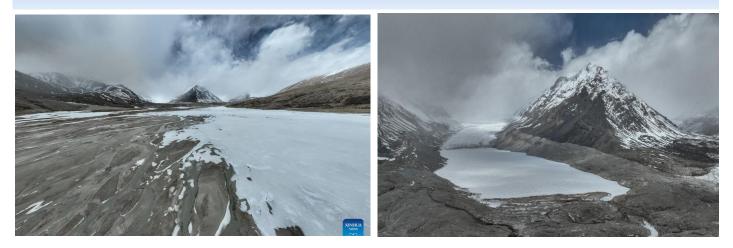


A look at "paradise of wild animals" in China's Tibet

**D**ubbed the "paradise of wild animals," Qiangtang National Nature Reserve is home to 10 species of wild animals under first-class state protection and 21 species under second-class state protection.



### Gyaimaryangzhong Glacier in Tibet under ecological protection



The aerial photos taken on May 31, 2023 shows a view of the Gyaimaryangzhong Glacier in southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region. The Gyaimaryangzhong Glacier is the source of the Yarlung Zangbo River, China's longest plateau river.

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### Over 53 bln yuan of deals inked at cultural, tourism expo in Tibet

Deals on 60 projects with a total value of over 53 billion yuan (about 7.44 billion U.S. dollars) were signed at a culture and tourism expo in Lhasa, capital of southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region. The expo is one of the most important events on Tibet's cultural calendar. Nearly 1,000 businesses from home and abroad have attended the event, bringing about 10,000 different products. Click here to read more



products to the culture and tourism expo.



Singers perform at the opening ceremony of the 5th China Tibet Dancers perform at the opening ceremony of the 5th China Tibet Tourism and Culture Expo in Lhasa, capital of southwest China's Tourism and Culture Expo in Lhasa, capital of southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region, June 16, 2023. Nearly 1,000 business- Tibet Autonomous Region, June 16, 2023. Nearly 1,000 businesses from home and abroad have brought about 10,000 kinds of es from home and abroad have brought about 10,000 kinds of products to the culture and tourism expo.

### **Photo Gallery**

# CHINA INFO



Panchen Erdeni Chos-kyi rGyal-po holds a prayer meeting at Champa Ling Monastery in Qamdo City, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region, June 12, 2023.



Local residents pose for a photo in front of their new house in Gurum Township of Lhasa, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region



The spring scenery at Yani national wetland park in Nyingchi, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region



A view of the Basum Lake in Gongbo'gyamda County of Nyingchi, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region



The scenery of Mainling section of the Yarlung Zangbo River in Mainling County of Nyingchi, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region.



Grassland by the lake in Dinggye County, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region.

### **Photo Gallery**

# **CHINA INFO**



Students of a branch school of Lhasa Experimental Primary School have lunch in Lhasa, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region



Monks attend a debate activity in the Jokhang Temple in Lhasa, capital of southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region



A view of Mount Qomolangma at sunset



The scenery of the Yamdrok Lake in Nagarze County of Shannan City, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region



Riders perform on horseback to celebrate Lhasa Shoton (yogurt banquet) Festival in Lhasa, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region.



Pupils attend a science class at a primary school in Zhaxizom Township in Tingri County, Xigaze City, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region, June 5, 2023. The primary school of Zhaxizom Township is the closest school to Mount Qomolangma, with a distance of just over 40 kilometers.

### **The Modernization of Tibet**



### **Tibet Since 1951: Liberation, Development and Prosperity**

**C**hina's State Council Information Office issued a white paper in May 2021 on the peaceful liberation of Tibet and its development over the past seven decades. The white paper, titled "Tibet Since 1951: Liberation, Development and Prosperity," reviewed Tibet's history and achievements, and presented a true and panoramic picture of the new socialist Tibet.

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### Today's Tibet evinces path to modernization: tibetologist

The development of Tibet and ethnic groups has always been one of the priorities for the central government and the modernization of Tibet reflects Chinese modernization, a researcher at the China Tibetology Research Center wrote.

By taking measures for the liberation of social productivity, the central authorities laid a solid foundation and gave the institutional guarantee for Tibet's modernization, Kelsang Drolma said in a China Daily signed article.

Today, Tibet is a socialist society where all workers enjoy equal rights and freedom in all aspects of life, the tibetologist said.

### Tibet has over 9,500 5G base stations



**M**ore than 9,500 5G base stations had been built in southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region by the end of March, with the number of 5G users in the region nearing 1.03 million, according to a 5G+ industrial internet conference held in April.

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### China's Tibet basically builds all-inclusive Tibetan medicine service system

**S**outhwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region has basically established a Tibetan medicine service system that covers the whole region, said the regional health commission.

Tibetan medicine services can now be provided by all the region's community health service centers, 94.4 percent of its township hospitals and 42.4 percent of its village clinics.



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#### Tibet Story: Modern machinery empowers Tibet's agricultural development



**F**or over 2,400 years, Tibetan farmers had used the traditional method of tying a wooden pole around the necks of two yaks to pull the plow. However, the use of modern machinery has since replaced this ancient farming practice.

Due to the widespread adoption of agricultural mechanization in the region, Tibetan farmers have increasingly turned to advanced and convenient mechanized farming tools, making them a preferred choice over traditional yakplow farming. As a result, the latter has gradually faded out.

### Column: Whole-process people's democracy promotes common prosperity in Tibet



### by Roland Boer, an Australian professor at the School of Philosophy of Renmin University of China

I observed earlier that Tibet's culture is flourishing in a creative way, educational quality is notably improving and of a high level, and people can engage in an informed and productive way in the whole-process people's democracy. I would add here that in Tibet, ecological programs are making significant devel-

opments and world-class breakthroughs -- or what we know as ecological civilization. In other words, on the basis of socio-economic well-being, Tibet is experiencing a notable and comprehensive increase in civil, political, cultural, and environmental rights.

To conclude: if "whole-process people's democracy" means "putting people at the center," it is an objective fact that Tibet's comprehensive development has been resolutely people-centered.

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### Tibet makes further transportation infrastructure progress

**S**outhwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region made further progress in transportation infrastructure development in 2022, bringing the total length of roads open to traffic to 121,400 km.

"Tibet will complete fixed-asset investment of 26.3 billion yuan in road construction and increase the length of roads open to traffic to 124,000 km this year," said Liu Zhiqiang, director of the regional department of transport.



### Infographic: Tibet witnesses astounding development 72 years after peaceful liberation

**O**n May 23, 1951, the Agreement of the Central People's Government and the Local Government of Xizang (Tibet) on Measures for the Peaceful Liberation of Tibet (also called 17-Article Agreement) was signed. The Tibet residents broke free from the fetters of imperialism for good, embarking on the bright road of unity, progress and development. After 72 years, the Tibet Autonomous Region in Southwest China has seen remarkable progress and achieved astounding development. Now, the region enjoys a stable social environment, economic and cultural prosperity, and a sound eco-environment in which local residents are enjoying much happier lives.

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Past Xizang	Today's Xizang
<b>GDP</b> 1951: <b>129</b> million yuan (\$ <b>18.5</b> million)	2022: <b>213</b> billion yuan (\$ <b>30.5</b> billion)
Industry There was hardly any industry.	Xizang has own modern industrial and agriculture system, with mining, ethnic medicine and handicrafts as pillars.
Transportation There was no highways or railways.	Sichuan-Xizang Highway, Qinghai- Xizang Highway, and Qinghai-Xizang Railway are constructed. Villages are connected with roads.
Accommodation More than <b>90</b> percent of the population did not have housing.	Proper housing projects were carried out for farmers, herders and urban residents, and ecological relocation of communities living above <b>4,800</b> meters.
Education There were no schools in the modern sense, with illiteracy rate at about <b>95</b> percent.	By 2020, Xizang had over <b>3,195</b> schools, including <b>7</b> regular higher education institutions, <b>12</b> vocational schools, <b>143</b> middle schools, and <b>827</b> primary schools.
	Enrollment rate 99.93% Primary schools

#### Thriving tourism

In the first quarter of 2023, Xizang received over **2.55 million** domestic and international tourists. Local tourism sector gained revenues of **2.03 billion yuan** during the period.

#### Well-preserved ecology

By the end of 2021, Xizang had established a total of **47** nature reserves, covering a combined area of **412,200** square kilometers – accounting for **34.35** percent of Xizang's total land area.

#### Widely-used Tibetan language

There are **16** Tibetan-language journals and **12** Tibetan-language newspapers. Tibetan language is widely used in healthcare, postal and telecommunication, transportation, finance, and technology.

#### Protected traditional culture

There are **4,277** registered cultural heritage sites, and **1,985** cultural heritage protection units in Xizang. The region is home to three UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage representative elements, namely the Epic of King Gesar, Tibetan Opera, and Tibetan Medicine Bathing.

#### Acceleration of innovation

Significant research achievements such as the breeding of highland barley, highland ecological protection and restoration, and highland medicine provide strong support for the high-quality development of Xizang.

### \* <u>SUPPORT BY</u> <u>CENTRAL GOVERNMENT</u>

#### Funds

• As of **May 2021**, the central government had channeled fiscal appropriations amounting to **1.63 trillion** yuan to support Xizang's development, with direct assistance funds to Xizang exceeding more than **69 billion** yuan.

Talent

Since 1994, 18 provincial regions,
17 centrally-administered enterprises, and multiple central government departments and commissions have dispatched tens of thousands of experienced civil servants to Xizang.

#### Religion



• By the end of **2020**, **92** reincarnated Living Buddhas were identified and approved in accordance with traditional religious rituals and

historical conventions. Source: Xizang government, Guangming Daily, CNR

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