



59th Founding Anniversary of the People's Republic of China



The Daily Star

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

September 30, 2008



Hu Jintao
President of the People's Republic of China



Wen Jiabao
Prime Minister of the People's Republic of China

China seeks a balance between food security and urbanization

ZHAN YAN

ZHOU Siyu, 57, after a lifetime working the land as one of China's millions of peasants, worries about food security in her home of Longkou, Shandong Province.

"We used to store big urns of grain at home every year, but now few families do so and instead we buy grain. The young are working away from the farms. The buildings and roads take too much high-yield cropland and shrubs or flowers have been planted in beautiful-

tions schemes."

Zhou's worries reflect the challenge China faces in seeking a balance between food security and the urbanization of its vast rural population.

China feeds a fifth of the world's population with a land mass largely unsuited for agriculture (around 14 percent of the territory comprises arable land). Feeding 1.3 billion people remains one of the government's top concerns after 30 years of reform and opening-up.

In July, the State Council approved a medium to long-term

guideline to ensure food security, setting grain production targets at 500 billion kg by 2010, 540 billion kg by 2020 and 95 percent self-sufficiency by 2020.

It also prescribes ways to protect farmland, construct rural infrastructure and raise farmers' incomes.

One principle to ensure food security is the "bottom line": 1.8 billion mu (120 million hectares) of farmland.

China presently has about 1.827 billion mu (121.8 million hectares), or 1.39 mu (0.09 hectares) per

capita, about a third of the global average. In 1996, it had 1.951 billion mu (130.07 million hectares), or 1.59 mu (0.11 hectares) per person -- a loss of 6.4 percent of the arable land in 11 years mainly to urbanization.

Chen Xiwen, director of the Office of the Central Leading Group on Rural Work, says the authorities approve 4 million mu (266,667 hectares) for construction each year, including 2.82 million mu (188,000 hectares) of farmland. At that rate the bottom line is approaching fast.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Ambassador's Message

THIS October 1st marks the 59th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. On this auspicious occasion, I wish to join the people of all walks of life in China to extend warmest congratulations to the birthday of our great motherland. I would also like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to all friends in Bangladesh for their warm greetings and best wishes on this special occasion.

Since the founding of New China in 1949, the Chinese people became their own masters and began the socialist construction. Thirty years ago, the Chinese people embarked upon the historic drive of reform, opening-up and modernization and have made steady economic growth and phenomenal progress through unremitting efforts. The overall national strength of China has increased remarkably and the life standard of its people improved steadily. Between 1978 and 2007, China's GDP grew from US\$ 147.3 billion to US\$ 3,010 billion, ranking No.4 in the world, with an average annual growth rate of 9.8%. Its import and export volume went up from US\$ 20.6 billion to US\$ 2173.8 billion, and its foreign exchange reserve soared from US\$ 167 million to US\$ 1530 billion. During this period, the number of its poor rural population dropped from 250 million to 20 million.

Meanwhile, we are fully aware that despite the success in its development, China remains the world's largest developing country with per capita GDP US\$ 2280 ranking behind the 100th place. The Chinese people are yet to live a well-off life, and China still faces daunting challenges. Therefore, it requires sustained and unremitting efforts to transform the country and make life better for its people. In the next twelve years, we will strive to make new progress in building a moderately prosperous society in an all-round way. We aim to raise China's GDP per capita to US\$3,000 and establish a well off society by 2020. To realize these goals, China has adopted a new concept of development in line with its national conditions and the requirement of the times. That is, to pursue a scientific outlook on development that makes economic and social development people-oriented, comprehensive, balanced and sustainable.

The year of 2008 marks a special signifi-

cance for the Chinese people. In this year, Chinese Government and people have met big difficulties caused by devastating natural disasters, a heavy snow storm in February and an earthquake in May. However, under the leadership of Chinese Government and with the help from the international community, the 1.3 billion Chinese people recovered from the disasters and successfully held one truly exceptional Olympic Games in Beijing, which brought China in a new way to the spotlight of the world arena. During the 17-day events, China fulfilled her promises to hold the "Green Olympics, High-tech Olympics and Humanistic Olympics". The truly exceptional games under the theme of "One World, One Dream" will be shining forever in the Olympic history.

As the Beijing Olympic Games showed to the world, China has always cherished peace and harmony. China believes that "the strong should not oppress the weak, and the rich should not bully the poor" and advocated that, "all nations live side by side in perfect harmony". China holds high the banner of peace, development and cooperation. It pursues an independent foreign policy of peace and commits itself firmly to peaceful development. It seeks to accelerate its development by upholding world peace. The world peace is, in turn, enhanced by China's development. China firmly pursues a strategy of opening-up for mutual benefit and win-win outcomes. It genuinely wishes to enter into extensive cooperation with other countries. China's development requires a long-term stable international environment, especially a stable neighboring environment. China's development will certainly contribute to the prosperity of the neighboring countries. China firmly observes the guideline of "being a good neighbor and partner" and the policy of "fostering an amiable, peaceful and prosperous neighborhood", and work with other peoples in the region to create and enjoy profound friendship, mutual beneficial cooperation and common prosperity.

China and Bangladesh are close neighbours enjoying traditional and time-tested friendship. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1975, we have gained fruitful and genuine cooperation of mutual benefit in all fields of politics, econ-

omy, culture, social development, etc. We share basically identical views on most international and regional issues and conduct close coordination with each other in the international arena. In recent years, interaction of all levels between the two countries continues to expand and intensify, while the bilateral trade volume in 2007 amounted to about US\$ 3.45 billion. Just several days back, Hon'ble Chief Adviser to the Caretaker Government of Bangladesh Dr. Fakhruddin Ahmed made a successful visit to China, during which the top leaders of China and Bangladesh agreed to take further steps to enhance the bilateral relations. I firmly believe that, with our joint efforts, the Comprehensive Partnership of Cooperation featuring long-term friendship, equality and mutual benefit between China and Bangladesh will be promoted to a new level in the days to come. I sincerely hope that the people of China and Bangladesh will together enjoy economic development, social progress and prosperity.



Zheng Qingdian
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic
of China to Bangladesh

UNDER THE HONG KONG BASED UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION

GOLDEN CROWN ENTERPRISES INT'L LTD.

Our incorporation in Dhaka Export Processing Zone (DEPZ):



SOUTH CHINA



GOLDTEX LIMITED



Actor Sporting Ltd.

South China Bleaching & Dyeing Factory Ltd.
(Fabric Back Processing, Dyeing, Printing & Finishing)

Goldtex Limited
(Fabric Weaving)

Goldtex Garments Limited

Actor Sporting Limited



We start from yarn and end with garment. Achievements of past one decade articulate our customer-pleasing approach around the globe. The state-of-the-art textile & garment machineries imported from Japan, Germany, Italy, USA and installed under direct supervision of experts of supplier companies has developed an in-built means for optimum productivity with superior quality. "Highest achievable quality" we strive to materialize in every sequence of our production lines.

Bangladesh Office -

Plot No. 93-96, 98-100, 109-112, Dhaka Export Processing Zone
Ganakbari, Savar, Dhaka - 1349, Bangladesh
Tel - (00880-2) 7702180, 7701223-4, 7701429-31, 7702176-178
E mail: kort@sc.gcglobal.com

Hong Kong Office -

Golden Crown Enterprises Int'l Ltd. 4th Floor, Winner Building, Block C & D
36, Man Yue Street, Ma Tau Wei Road, Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong
Tel.: (852) 23620378, Fax: (852) 23561809
E mail: salesgmt@gcheadwear.com



www.southchinabd.com