

Joint Statement of the People's Republic of China and the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

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2016. At the invitation of Premier Li Keqiang of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Ranil Wickremesinghe, paid an official visit to China from 4 to 6 April 9.

During the visit, President Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China met with Prime Minister Wickremesinghe, Premier Li Keqiang held talks with Prime Minister Wickremesinghe, and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Zhang Dejiang met with Prime Minister Wickremesinghe. In a cordial and friendly atmosphere, the two sides had an in-depth exchange of views on bilateral relations and international and regional issues of common concern and reached broad consensus.

The two sides believe that China-Sri Lanka relations have been tested for a long time and the two sides are willing to develop all-weather friendship. The strategic cooperative partnership of sincere mutual assistance and friendship between China and Sri Lanka from generation to generation conforms to the fundamental interests of the two countries and is conducive to promoting the respective development of the two countries and the well-being of their peoples. The two sides will persist in promoting China-Sri Lanka friendship, deepen mutually beneficial cooperation, and support each other in regional and international occasions.

The two sides reaffirmed their mutual support on issues of common interest, mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, and support for each other's stability and development. The two sides reaffirmed their adherence to the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and their adherence to the basic norms of international law such as non-interference in internal affairs. China supports Sri Lanka's efforts to safeguard national unity, peace, national reconciliation and promote economic development. Sri Lanka reiterated its adherence to the one-China policy and supported the Chinese government's efforts to safeguard national unity. The two sides stressed the importance of maintaining peace and stability in the South China Sea. Sri Lanka calls on relevant parties to resolve disputes and differences through constructive dialogue, consultation and cooperation and in accordance with international laws and practices. Sri Lanka appreciates China's efforts to promote dialogue, consultation and cooperation.

2014. The two sides believe that President Xi Jinping's state visit to Sri Lanka in September 9 and President Sirisena of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka's state visit to China in March 2015 are milestones, and the two governments will work together to continue to fully implement the Leaders' Consensus, strengthen practical cooperation in various fields between the two countries, and elevate bilateral relations to a new level.

The two sides agreed to further enhance bilateral relations, strengthen high-level mutual visits, and maintain regular contacts at all levels through bilateral and multilateral channels.



mutually beneficial cooperation and achieve common development. Sri Lanka shares common interests with China in expanding economic cooperation and building the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, which is a road of friendship, cooperation, exchanges and connectivity. The two sides will take the opportunity of jointly building the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road to further strengthen cooperation in infrastructure construction, China-Sri Lanka free trade negotiations and joint ventures, promote economic, cultural, scientific and technological cooperation and personnel exchanges, and bring more benefits to the two peoples and build a community with a shared future.

The Sri Lankan side welcomes the positive role played by Chinese enterprises in Sri Lanka's national construction, welcomes more Chinese enterprises to invest in Sri Lanka, and is willing to create a good investment and business environment for them. China will continue to encourage powerful Chinese enterprises to invest in Sri Lanka and carry out mutually beneficial cooperation. China encourages Chinese financial institutions to provide financing support for infrastructure construction in Sri Lanka.

The two sides agreed to strengthen cooperation in transportation, electric power and other infrastructure, industrial parks, processing and manufacturing industries. The Sri Lankan side announced the approval of the resumption of construction of the Colombo Port City project, which will facilitate and support the implementation of the project, and is willing to continue to promote cooperation with Chinese enterprises in the "Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry of Development Strategy and International Trade of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on Comprehensively Promoting Investment and Economic and Technical Cooperation".

The two sides reviewed and expressed satisfaction with the achievements of economic and trade cooperation between the two countries, and agreed to hold the seventh meeting of the China-Sri Lanka Joint Economic and Trade Committee as soon as possible within this year to study and formulate a development plan for bilateral economic and trade cooperation in the next five to ten years. The two sides agreed to launch the third round of free trade negotiations as soon as possible and conclude the negotiations as soon as possible to strengthen bilateral trade and economic cooperation. The two sides agreed to negotiate a comprehensive free trade agreement covering trade in goods, services, investment and economic cooperation on the basis of previous work.

China is willing to continue to provide assistance for Sri Lanka's economic and social development and improvement of people's livelihood, especially in the fields of medical and health, agriculture and water conservation. China is willing to provide Sri Lankan agricultural management and technical personnel with training and seminar opportunities in China in the fields of fishery, hybrid rice and tea. The two sides will earnestly implement the Memorandum of Understanding on Fishery Cooperation between China and Sri Lanka and promote cooperation in the fields of inland water fishery fishing and aquaculture. Sri Lanka thanked China for its assistance to Sri Lanka's economic development.

The two sides agreed to convene the second meeting of the China-Sri Lanka Joint Committee on Marine and Coastal Zone Cooperation as soon as possible, hold the first working group meeting on marine and coastal zone cooperation, and promote cooperation in marine observation, marine meteorology, ecological protection, marine resources management, underwater joint archaeology, maritime search and rescue, anti-piracy, navigation safety, and maritime personnel training. The two sides agreed to carry out exchanges between relevant departments of the two countries in the field of supervision and anti-corruption to enhance mutual understanding and promote cooperation.

The two sides are willing to maintain close contact in the field of defense and reaffirm the need to further strengthen defense and security cooperation between the two countries.



technology demonstration parks and biotechnology joint laboratories, and help Sri Lanka strengthen its own capacity building. The two sides agreed to launch the "Sino-Sri Lanka Joint Center for Water Technology Research and Demonstration" project as soon as possible. China is willing to actively help Sri Lanka carry out research on the causes of chronic kidney disease.

The two sides noted that remarkable progress has been made in tourism cooperation between the two countries, with China becoming Sri Lanka's second largest source of tourists. The Chinese side invited Sri Lanka to send a delegation to China to attend the first World Tourism Development Conference, and is willing to continue to encourage Chinese citizens to travel to Sri Lanka and provide assistance to Sri Lanka in developing the tourism market. The two sides encourage air carriers of the two countries to open more direct flights.

5. The Chinese and Sri Lankan peoples have a long history. The two sides agreed to strengthen people-to-people exchanges and cooperation, and support the relevant cultural departments of the two countries in co-hosting the "China-Sri Lanka Maritime Silk Road" themed cultural relics exhibition in Colombo. The two sides will actively promote the activities of the Chinese Cultural Center and the Confucius Institute to enhance mutual understanding and friendship between the two peoples. China is willing to provide more scholarships to Sri Lanka, strengthen cooperation with Sri Lanka in vocational education and other fields, and will provide 2000,100 training places to Sri Lanka in the next five years. The two sides encourage universities, vocational training colleges, think tanks and media of the two countries to strengthen exchanges and cooperation. Sri Lanka expressed its gratitude to China for inviting Sri Lankan youths to visit China.

The two sides agreed to further strengthen coordination and cooperation in multilateral organizations such as the United Nations and regional cooperation frameworks such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), and strengthen communication and cooperation on UN reform, human rights, climate change and counter-terrorism. Sri Lanka welcomes China's positive willingness to strengthen project-based exchanges and cooperation with SAARC. China welcomes Sri Lanka to join the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank as a founding member.

The two sides agreed to jointly plan and hold a series of celebrations for the 2017th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Sri Lanka in 60.

Prime Minister Wickremesinghe thanked the Government and people of the People's Republic of China for the warm and friendly reception to him and the Sri Lankan delegation, and invited Premier Li Keqiang to visit Sri Lanka. Premier Li Keqiang expressed his gratitude for this and was willing to visit at a convenient time for both sides.

During the visit, the two sides also signed cooperation documents in the fields of economy, trade and investment, science and technology, health and justice.

(Note: The document was published on April 2016, 4)

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