



לקהל החברות שלום,

אנו שמחים לשלוח את הגיליון השני של "מבט ממערב סין" ובו ידיעות כלכליות אחרונות מאזורנו. בתום שנת הסוס ועם פרוס שנת הכבשה (או העז), פרסמו הפרובינציות הסיניות את נתוני הצמיחה שלהן בשנה החולפת:

סצ'ואן הציגה נתוני צמיחה של 8.5%, השקעות בערך של \$80 מיליארד ונוכחות של 283 חברות Fortune 500. צ'נגדו בירת הפרובינציה- צמחה ב-8.9%. סך הסחר של העיר עלה ב-10.4% ל-\$56 מיליארד. סך הסחר שנבע מאזור ההיי טק של העיר היה הראשון בסין מבין אזורי ההיי טק המיועדים שבה.

צ'ונצינג- קצב צמיחת התל"ג עמד על 10.9%- הקצב הגבוה ביותר לצמיחת פרובינציה בסין בשנה האחרונה.

יונאן- התל"ג של פרובינציית יונאן עלה ב-8.1% בשנת 2014.

גוויז'ו- קצב צמיחת התל"ג בפרובינציה עמד על 10.8% בשנת 2014, קצב הצמיחה השני בגובהו בסין.

כלל נתונים אלו משקפים עלייה גבוהה יותר מצמיחה הכלכלית של סין כולה שעמדה על כ-7.5%.

בינואר 2015 מונה Tang Liangzhi כראש עיריית צ'נגדו, תפקידו האחרון לפני כן היה ראש עיריית ווהאן בירת פרובינציית חוביי. בין השנים 1987-2001 הופקד על פיתוח אזור ההיי טק של העיר ווהן. מינויו כראש עיריית צ'נגדו משקף את הרצון לקדם את התעשיות עתירות הידע בעיר ואכן הצהרותיו הראשונות בתפקיד נסובו סביב רצונו למצב את צ'נגדו כעיר "סטארט אפ" ועידוד חדשנות. מספר ימים אחרי כניסתו לתפקיד, הוקם בעיר מועדון יזמים ע"ב חודשי ככלי נוסף לעידוד תעשייה טכנולוגית בעיר.

קריאה מועילה

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Economic headlines from Western China

Economic investments and development in Sichuan:

- **China tops patent applications list in 2014, Sichuan Ranks Seven Nationally**
Xinhua News Agency

China had more invention patent applications than any other country in 2014 for the fourth year running official data showed. The number of invention patent applications filed to the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) in 2014 stood at 928,000 RMB, growth of 12.5% compared 2013, according to the SIPO. The office authorized a total of 233,000 RMB invention patents in the year of 2014, 163,000 of which were from Chinese applicants.

By the end of 2014, China had 663,000 invention patents with high quality and market value, and the number of invention patents per 10,000 Chinese people reached 4.9.

China has seen rising numbers of patent applications as part of a drive to upgrade the economy. However, the country's invention patents still lack a competitive edge, experts said.

One of the government's priorities has been to boost innovation by improving intellectual property rights protection.

According to the statistics, the top ten provinces and cities with most invention patent applications are: Beijing, Guangdong, Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Shanghai, Shandong, Sichuan, Anhui, Shanxi and Hubei; the top 2 companies with most invention patent applications are Huawei and Zhongxing Telecommunication Equipment Corporation.

Link: <http://epaper.scdaily.cn/shtml/scrb/20150224/92658.shtml>

- **Chengdu Economy Maintained Good Momentum of Development in 2014- The economy aggregate surpasses trillion**

Chengdu economic Daily

According to preliminary accounting, in 2014 Chengdu achieved a GDP of 1.00566 trillion Yuan. Compared with last year, the growth rate is 8.9%. It surpasses the national and Sichuan Province's growth rate.

The annual per capita disposable income of urban residents in 2014 was 32,665 Yuan, the growth rate was 9%; and per capita net income of farmers was 14478 Yuan, the growth rate was 11.5%.

Link: http://e.chengdu.cn/html/2015-01/29/content_507792.htm

- **Chengdu Listed as One of China's Top 10 Express Deliveries Cities**
www.gochengdu.cn

Last year, Chengdu's express deliveries ranked 9th nationwide and its turnover of the express delivery industry surpassed RMB 3.5billion (approx.US\$ 564.52million), up 6% over the same period of 2013, and coming 10th in China, according to the Chengdu Municipal Postal Administration (CMPA) on January 24.

CMPA's statistics show that the city's volume of handled deliveries in 2014 increased 5% over the same period of 2013, hitting over 300 million.

Link: <http://www.gochengdu.cn/news/business/chengdu-listed-as-china's-top-10-express-deliveries-cities-a1186.html#sthash.ABEMFUP1.dpuf>

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- **Ya'an's GDP Growth Rate Ranks First in Sichuan Province in 2014: 11%**
Sichuan daily
Recovered from the after earthquake construction, Ya'an city pushes forward the economic development. The growth rates of main economic indexes ranks forefront in sichuan province. In 2014, the growth rate of GDP reaches 11%, paralleling with Luzhou city, ranking number 1 in sichuan province.
Link:<http://epaper.scdaily.cn/shtml/scrb/20150128/90492.shtml>
- **Upsurge of Start-ups Aroused in Chengdu**
The number of entrepreneurs and income ranks No.1 in the West China
Chengdu daily
Tencent released "the ranking of innovation and entrepreneurship of 2014 Chinese City & University". The ranking shows that the number of entrepreneurs in Chengdu ranks No.1 in the west of China, and the success rate is also very high; the average income of Chengdu entrepreneurs also ranks first in the west.
The ranking shows that, at present, entrepreneurs are most concentrated in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Eastern Coastal Cities in China, but the number of entrepreneurs in second and third tier cities also grows rapidly. In the ranking, Chengdu ranks No.6 among all cities in China, and ranks No.1 in the west of China. More than that, the success rate for start-ups in Chengdu is also very high. In the ranking for revenue, Chengdu also ranks No. 6 among all cities in China, and ranks No.1 in the West.
It is understood that in order to support entrepreneurs, especially the mobile Internet industry pioneers, Chengdu Municipal Government has issued many support policies, including provide free office space and office facilities for entrepreneurs, introduce the venture capital mechanism and broaden the financing channels and so on. It lowers the doorsill for the entrepreneurs to start up their business and stimulate their enthusiasm and enhance their entrepreneurial success rate.
Link: http://www.cdrb.com.cn/html/2015-01/28/content_2164065.htm
- **Chengdu Signed A Strategic Cooperation Agreement With China State Construction and Aluminum Corporation of China**
Chengdu Economic Daily
Chengdu Municipal Government signed a strategic cooperation agreement with China State Construction and Aluminum Corporation of China in Beijing.
Based in Chengdu, this agreement opened the prelude of the 'going west' strategy of China State Construction and Aluminum Corporation of China.
Link: http://e.chengdu.cn/html/2015-02/04/content_508398.htm
- **High-tech District was authorized as the First National Intellectual Property Services Pilot Area in West China**
Chengdu Economic Daily
According to the high-tech zone, , the State Intellectual Property Bureau recently issued that the high-tech zone of Chengdu will be the first national intellectual property services pilot area in West China .



At the end of 2014, a total of 7 areas have been authorized as the pilot area in Intellectual Property in China; high-tech is the first one to get the recognition in west china. Link: http://e.chengdu.cn/html/2015-01/13/content_505724.htm

- **Chengdu Science City will be built in Tianfu New Town**
West China City News

At the economic working conference of Chengdu Municipal Government, the task for 2015 has been set up. High-end industry is still the theme for the economic development of Chengdu. Chengdu will also emphasize on the construction of city center and Tianfu New Town, and cultivate a batch of satellite cities. Meanwhile Chengdu Science city will be built in Tianfu New Town.

LINK: <http://www.wccdaily.com.cn/shtml/hxdsb/20150108/267041.shtml>

- **Number of Small and Medium-sized Science and Technology Enterprises Explosively grows in Mianyang**
Sichuan Daily

According to the Science and Technology Bureau of Mianyang, in 2014, number of small and medium-sized science and technology enterprises has grown hugely. 2,256 newly registered companies, which is 3.8 times of that in 2013. Now there are 4,476 small and medium-sized science and technology enterprises in Mianyang, and 47 of them have grown into big companies. There are 171 thousand people working in the science and technology industry, which accounts for 20.5% of all the employment in Mianyang.

Link: <http://epaper.scdaily.cn/shtml/scrb/20150107/88741.shtml>

- **Sichuan Universities Have Unified a Platform for Announcing Scientific and Technological Achievements**
Sichuan Daily

The free platform for announcing scientific and technological achievements for Sichuan universities will be co-founded by the education department of Sichuan and science and technology bureau of Chengdu.

The platform is to promote the cooperation between Sichuan Universities and Sichuan enterprises, to push forward the research to be transferred to actual achievements.

Link: <http://epaper.scdaily.cn/shtml/scrb/20150119/89711.shtml>

- **The "3116" Plan for 2015 Investment in Sichuan**
Sichuan Daily

3: to push forward 30 major investment projects implemented

1: to provide key service to 100 enterprises invested in Sichuan to motivate them to increase investment capital.

1: to follow up 100 key enterprises and motivate them to invest in Sichuan

6: to strongly promote 600 key projects signed to be implemented

In 2015, oriented with five major high-end growth industries, five emerging pilot service industries, as well as the construction of Tianfu New Town and Mianyang science and technology city, Sichuan will attract investment from the global.

Link: <http://epaper.scdaily.cn/shtml/scrb/20150107/88734.shtml>

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Investment policies and developments in Chengdu:

- **Chengdu Mayor Tang Liangzhi Talks About Support for Entrepreneurs**

Chengdu economic daily

Renmin Daily published the article about Chengdu Mayor Tang Liangzhi's support for entrepreneurs. Mayor Tang said Chengdu municipal government will fully support all the people who want to start up their business. The government needs to do well in top-level designing, setting up the incubator, retaining the talent and keeping the channel of information exchange smooth.

Link: http://e.chengdu.cn/html/2015-02/13/content_509612.htm

- **New Mayor of Chengdu Strongly Supports Youth Entrepreneurs**

Chengdu daily

Just took his post for 46 days, new mayor launched the work he concerned most- to launch a tailor-made support plan for Chengdu youth entrepreneurs.

The mayor said: "I will not leave the stage for start-ups for my whole life. I will bear the flag for supporting youth entrepreneurs. I will build Chengdu as the start-up city, innovation city."

Link: http://www.cdrb.com.cn/html/2015-02/10/content_2169274.htm

- **Chengdu Mayor: Warmly Welcome Global Entrepreneurs to Develop in Chengdu**

www.gochengdu.cn

Recently, Tang Liangzhi, Deputy Secretary of the CPC Chengdu Municipal Committee and Mayor of Chengdu, sent out a written invitation to entrepreneurs worldwide, inviting them to share opportunities and seek common development to realize win-win cooperation in Chengdu.

Mayor Tang said in the letter that Chengdu is a livable city with a long history. In the past year, the city maintained a strong momentum of economic and social growth and realized remarkable results. It's GDP in 2014 hit over RMB1trillion (approx. US\$161.29billion), and its fixed-asset investment reached RMB662billion (approx. US\$106.44billion). The city has opened 78 international (regional) air routes by the end of last year, and the Chengdu-Lodz rail cargo service has been in daily round-trip operation. By 2014, 12 countries have established consul generals or consulates in Chengdu, where 262 *Fortune* Global 500 companies have settled. In the past year, the city received 186,000,000 tourists from around the world. Chengdu is highly recognized by well-known companies from home and abroad and foreign investors, thanks to its good living environment, vast investment opportunity, and perfect infrastructure for industries, rich science and education resources, efficient government services and travel convenience brought about by the 72-hour visa-free transit policy.

Mayor Tang expressed that Chengdu is adapting to the economic "new normal", accelerating innovation-driven development and further transforming modes of economic growth. Facing opportunities of the country's new round of western development, the Yangtze River and Silk Road economic belt development strategies, furthering reform of coordinated urban and rural development, as well as the construction of the Tianfu New Area, the city has shown a great potential and broad prospect in the areas of investment and innovation.

So far, more than 100 global famous companies including Dell, Aluminum Corporation of China (Chinalco) and Lenovo have received the letter and expressed appreciation to the CPC Chengdu Municipal Committee and Chengdu Municipal Government's strong support for their development in the city. They are optimistic about Chengdu's prospect and look forward to expanding their partnership with the city in the future.

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Link: <http://www.gochengdu.cn/news/whats-news/chengdu-mayor-warmly-welcome-global-entrepreneurs-to-develop-in-chengdu-a1250.html#sthash.V2s7J62p.dpuf>

- **To Share Development Opportunities, to achieve a win-win Development**
Chengdu daily

Mayor Tang Liangzhi met with Chairman of Fosun Group Guo Guangchang, the two sides conducted a thorough exchange on the social and economic development plan of Chengdu, and seek cooperation in wider fields.

Link: http://www.cdrb.com.cn/html/2015-01/28/content_2164052.htm

- **Wuhan Chengdu Luzhou Signed Port Logistics Strategic Cooperation Framework Agreement**
Chengdu economic daily

Wuhan Municipal government, Chengdu Municipal government and Luzhou Municipal government signed the logistics strategic cooperation framework agreement in Chengdu, thus to push forward all cities to reach an agreement on ports planning cooperation, construction cooperation and channel cooperation.

The signing of the agreement will help to build Chengdu-Luzhou railway and public water transport channel, to promote Chengdu- Europe railway, to actively integrate into the construction of the national "one belt and one road" and the Yangtze River Economic belt.

Link: http://e.chengdu.cn/html/2015-02/02/content_508120.htm

- **City Launches Entrepreneurial Program**

www.gochengdu.cn

On February 8, the Chengdu Municipal Government initiated a program titled Entrepreneurial Tianfu. According to the program, by 2020 the city will establish a comprehensive and well-functioning system to support starting business of top national level and will play a pioneering role in the country. It strives to become a world-renowned city for entrepreneurship and innovation by 2025. An official from the Chengdu Municipal Science and Technology Bureau said that the entrepreneurial program is aimed to create a good entrepreneurial environment for such entrepreneurs as overseas returnees, researchers from universities and colleges, as well as serial entrepreneurs. The city will offer support primarily to the Chengdu Hi-tech Industrial Development Zone, Tianfu New Area, central urban areas, and Shuangliu and Pixian counties, to build entrepreneurial communities which combine incubators with apartments and business space. Universities and colleges, science and technology museums, communities and commercial complexes are encouraged to establish service platforms for entrepreneurs to share and exchange experience and ideas. In addition, the city will attract social capital to involve in innovation and entrepreneurship.

Link: <http://www.gochengdu.cn/news/whats-news/city-launches-entrepreneurial-program-a1245.html#sthash.owbDRyAR.dpuf>

- **"Chengdu Talent Plan" Invests 12 Million Yuan Per Year to Attract Top Talents Home and Abroad**

Sichuan Daily

Chengdu municipal government states that it will give each long-term project talents 1million yuan subsidy give each youth and overseas short-term projects talents 500,000 yuan, give top

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innovation team total of 5 million yuan fund. There are 72 domestic and foreign high-end talents and top 8 teams winning the fund this year

Link: <http://epaper.scdaily.cn/shtml/scrb/20150202/90954.shtml>

Sichuan – Israel:

- **Israeli Diplomat: Israeli Consulate in Chengdu Creates New Opportunity for Sino- Israel Economic Cooperation**

China News Agency

"Israel and China have established diplomatic relations for more than 20 years, but all the former consular institutions were set up in the east coastal areas in China, we believe that the establishment of the Israeli Consulate in Chengdu will open the door for Israel in the west of China." DDG of Israel's Ministry of foreign affairs made above statement during the interview conducted by China News Agency.

Link: <http://www.chinanews.com/gn/2015/01-26/7006318.shtml>

- **DDG of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel: to Build A New Silk Road with Sichuan Sichuan Daily**

On 26th Jan, at the Israeli consulate in Chengdu, the DDG of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel accepts the interview conducted by Sichuan Daily.

Although her main goal is to participate in the Sino-Israel Innovation Conference in Beijing, she squeezes some time to visit Sichuan. In her own words: Sichuan is very important.

Link: <http://epaper.scdaily.cn/shtml/scrb/20150130/90744.shtml>

Hi-Tech :

- **Intel Achieves High Degree of Talent Localization in Chengdu**

The 6th Intel Cup Vocational Knowledge and Skills Contest was held in Chengdu. Different from previous contests, this one saw college students compete with employees from the Chengdu Hi-tech Industrial Development Zone (CDHT), and the students were judged based on the same standard for their Intel competitors. According to Intel Principle Engineer Yeoh HP, excellent contestants will probably get job offers from the world's leading semiconductor chip maker in the future. "So far, over 90% employees of Intel's Chengdu factory are local, and 70% are Chengdu natives," said Miss Zhao Rong, Intel Cultural Strategic & Training Director and Chengdu Hi-tech Zone Enterprise Training Union Chairman. "Because we've been expanding partnership with local universities, we have had a high degree of localization of not only our production line workers but mid-to-top-level executives," Miss Zhao added. Joan Xu, Intel Education Program Manager, revealed that Intel would invest more in Chengdu factory and strengthen the company-university cooperation in 2015 to cultivate more talents for Chengdu. The company has planned to let more top talents including chief engineers give lectures to local college students, and enhance course development according to the development of new technologies.

Link: <http://www.gochengdu.cn/news/education/intel-achieves-high-degree-of-talent-localization-in-chengdu-a1128.html#sthash.MConbuUZ.dpuf>

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E-commerce:

- **Chengdu Becomes One of the First Pilot Cities for Mobile E-commerce Financial and Technological Innovation**
Chengdu Daily

According to the notice jointly released by the National Development & Reform Commission and the People's Bank of China, Chengdu becomes one of the first pilot cities for mobile E-commerce financial and technological innovation, other four pilot cities are: Ningbo, Shenzhen, Hefei and Guiyang. This will help to accelerate the in-depth integration of Chengdu Electronic Commerce and financial services.

Link: http://www.cdrb.com.cn/html/2015-02/26/content_2173286.htm

- **Alibaba to Establish Entrepreneurial Base in Chengdu**
www.gochengdu.cn

China's e-commerce giant Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. announced that it is scheduled to build an entrepreneurial base named Baichuan in Chengdu to support local outstanding mobile Internet companies. To facilitate the growth of the country's mobile Internet industry, Alibaba has planned to establish 9 entrepreneurial bases around China including one in Chengdu, the only city in the western regions. An official with Alibaba revealed that the Chengdu base will focus on the development of local outstanding mobile Internet companies. All start-up teams involved in the industry are welcome to submit applications for settling down in the base, and they will be offered free office space and training opportunities involving the knowledge and skills on technologies, products, operations and marketing, if their applications are successful. China's famous Internet firms including Baidu Inc. and Tencent Holdings Ltd. have set up their entrepreneurial bases in Chengdu earlier, which are aimed to seek good entrepreneurial projects in the city. With the three Internet giants getting increasingly optimistic about their growth here, "Chengdu's mobile Internet industry will be boosted significantly, thanks to the leading Internet companies' quality resources," an industry insider said.

Link: <http://www.gochengdu.cn/news/whats-news/alibaba-to-establish-entrepreneurial-base-in-chengdu-a1122.html#sthash.gHqKfIXp.dpuf>

New Media:

- **Cluster of Chengdu New Media Innovative Industrial Listed As the National Pilot**
Sichuan daily

According to the Chengdu hi tech Zone, Cluster of Chengdu New Media Innovative Industrial is officially identified with the ministry of science and was listed as the national pilot. The main content of the cluster is mobile Internet industry. This is the first innovative cluster identified in Southwest Region.

<http://epaper.scdaily.cn/shtml/scrb/20150108/88835.shtml>

Agriculture industry:

- **Chengdu Agriculture Industries Send Invitations to the World**
Sichuan daily

In 2015, Chengdu will focus on 8 agricultural investment projects, including upgrading modern seed industry, innovation of agricultural science and technology, agricultural resources and

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ecological environment protection. In 2015 it will strive to introduce 40 new important agricultural projects and make sure get actual capital more than 10 billion yuan.

According to the goal of Chengdu, it will build the "one district, two bases" for the western agricultural product processing industry, namely the demonstration area for processing of agricultural products, the research and technology development base of agricultural products deep processing, corporate headquarters base.

LINK: <http://epaper.scdaily.cn/shtml/scr/20150202/90953.shtml>

- **Guizhou will deepen the Cooperation with Israel in Agriculture**

- **Guizhou branch, China Daily**

The Israeli Guizhou agriculture seminar co-organized by Consulate general of Israel in Chengdu and agriculture commission of Guizhou was held in Guiyang. Guizhou will intro the Israeli agriculture technology to push forward the agriculture development of Guizhou.

Link: http://cnews.chinadaily.com.cn/2015-02/11/content_19558781.htm

Guizhou Channel : <http://gz.people.com.cn/n/2015/0211/c222152-23877948.html>

Guizhou Metropolitan Newspaper :

http://www.gywb.cn/content/201502/12/content_2473846.htm

- **Association of Leading Agricultural Enterprises of Chengdu Plots Development Plan**

- **Chengdu daily**

Leading enterprise is the fresh troop and leading brand of Chengdu modern agriculture. According to the Association of Leading Agricultural Enterprises of Chengdu, 600 leading enterprises of the association create the sales revenue of 200 billion Yuan, net profit reaches near 10 billion yuan. The association leads 5 million farmers and pushes forward the industrialization of Chengdu agriculture to accelerate to a new platform.

Link: http://www.cdrb.com.cn/html/2015-01/28/content_2164063.htm

- **DDG of Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs: hopes to enhance the agricultural cooperation with Chongqing**

- **China News Service**

Deputy Director General of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign affairs Yaffa Ben- Ari visited Chongqing, to get a deeper understanding of the development of Southwestern China, to look for the directions of cooperation. She said, the characteristic agriculture of Chongqing has great potential for cooperation with Israel, hope in the future there will be in-depth cooperation.

Link: <http://world.worker.cn/76/201501/28/150128010838893.shtml>

Medical industry:

- **Huaxi Hospital Ranks Top of All Hospitals of China in Scientific and Technology Influence**

- **Sichuan daily**

At the first session of the forum of the development of Chinese medical science, medical information research institute of Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences released the "ranking of 2014 China hospital science and technology influence ". Among all the 846 Hospitals of China, Huaxi Hospital surpassing The General Hospital of the People's Liberation Army, Peking Union Medical College Hospital, ranked first in comprehensive influence.

Link: <http://epaper.scdaily.cn/shtml/scr/20150121/89936.shtml>

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Vehicle Industry:

- **Volvo Made in Chengdu Planned to Export to America in 2015**

Chengdu Economic Daily

Spokesman for Volvo Group stated on 12th Jan, Volvo plans to become the first Chinese large car enterprises to make car for US market.

The North American International Auto Show will be held in Detroit, this spokesman made above comments when he was interviewed by the local media on the phone. He said that Volvo plans to export the S60L cars made in Chengdu to US.

Link: http://e.chengdu.cn/html/2015-01/13/content_505681.htm

- **Two Made in Sichuan New Energy Locomotive Came Into Being**

Sichuan daily

On Jan 28th, the world's largest power of hybrid electric locomotive and dual fuel engine car came into being in CSR Ziyang Locomotive Company Limited. The two locomotives adopt the world advanced AC drive technology; the locomotive power respectively reaches 3000 horsepower and 5000 horsepower. This is an important fruit of the national locomotive developing in the direction of new energy.

Link: <http://epaper.scdaily.cn/shtml/scrb/20150129/90543.shtml>

Transportation:

- **Chengdu-Sri Lanka Direct Flight Opens, Chengdu –Osaka Direct Flight Will Open Next Month**
Sichuan Daily

The direct air service from Chengdu to Colombo, capital of Sri Lanka launched its maiden flight at 18:30 on February 10. The direct flight's flying time is five and a half hours. Air China operates the four weekly round-trip flights using Airbus A330 aircraft on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.

On the same day, the Chunqiu airline announced it would open the first direct flight from Chengdu to Osaka, Japan on 30th March. The direct flight's flying time is 4 hours. The airline operates the four weekly round-trip flights using airbus A320 aircraft on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.

- **World Airport City Conference will be held in Chengdu in 2015**

Chengdu Daily

So far, Chengdu has opened 241 domestic and international routes, including 78 international and regional routes.

Recently, the State Council and the Central Military Commission issued a formal document, agreed to build a new airport in Chengdu.

In fact, the vitality and potential of Chengdu have attracted the eyes of the world. After Several rounds of fierce competition with big cities around the world, Chengdu finally won the rights to host the World Airport City Congress and World Route Development Conference, the two events will be held respectively in this year and next year. Chengdu is the second city in China to host such two major international events after Beijing.

Link: http://www.cdrb.com.cn/html/2015-01/26/content_2163225.htm

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- **30 Minutes to the New Airport**
Chengdu Economic Daily
1 high-speed way, 2 intercity rails and the 3 rail expresses, will allow passenger to reach the new airport in 30 minutes from the downtown chengdu, and Tianfu New Town.
The new airport of Chengdu has been officially approved by the government.
Link: http://e.chengdu.cn/html/2015-01/20/content_506546.htm
- **Direct flight from Chengdu to Egypt**
Chengdu Economic Daily
Chengdu opened the direct flight from Chengdu to Egypt; the flight is scheduled for once a week.
This is the first direct flight from southwest part of China to Egypt.
Link: http://e.chengdu.cn/html/2015-01/20/content_506481.htm
- **Direct Chengdu-Nha Trang Chartered Flight**
The scheduled non-stop air service between Chengdu and Nha Trang, Vietnam was launched on Jan. 26. Sichuan Airlines is to operate chartered flights on the route. The flying time is three and a half hours. The flights is operated by Airbus A321 aircraft twice a week. Nha Trang implements visa-on-arrival policy for Chinese nationals. All Chengdu citizens will be able to travel without visa to the Vietnamese city.
Link: <http://www.gochengdu.cn/news/whats-news/direct-chengdu-nha-trang-chartered-flight-to-open-in-late-jan-a1133.html#sthash.6vgTdcWJ.dpuf>

International Relations:

- **20 countries' Consuls: willing to share development opportunities with Chengdu**
Chengdu Daily
A "friendship and cooperation" meeting was held, 20 countries' consuls gathered together to discuss the construction plan for Chengdu.
The first and newly CG of Israeli consulate in Chengdu Mr. Amir Lati says he hopes to seek for the cooperative opportunities with Chengdu in Electronic technology, environment and medicine. He specially emphasizes that he hopes that students from Chengdu Universities will study in Israel to share the innovative experience. Israeli government provides scholarship for Chinese students.
Link: http://www.cdrb.com.cn/html/2015-01/27/content_2163735.htm
Chengdu economic daily: http://e.chengdu.cn/html/2015-01/27/content_507472.htm

Tourism:

- **Sichuan Tourism Revenue Reaches RMB 22.5 Billion During Spring Festival Holiday**
Sichuan Daily
According to the Tourism Industry Office, during the 7-day spring festival holiday, Tourism revenue of Sichuan reached 22.5 billion yuan, with a surge of 27.2%. Totally 50.58 million People visited Sichuan during the holiday.
The 7 cities and state: Panzhihua, Liangshan, Guangyuan, Bazhong, Nanchong, Ya'an, Mianyang's tourism revenue saw an increase of more than 30%.
Link: <http://epaper.scdaily.cn/shtml/scrb/20150225/92680.shtml>

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- **Chengdu listed in New York Times “World tourist destination list”**
Chengdu Daily

This January, New York Times issued the list of “52 places to go in 2015”, Chengdu is on the list. The reports names Chengdu “a panda and food capital”

Link: http://www.cdrb.com.cn/html/2015-02/17/content_2172199.htm

New York Times Report: http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/01/11/travel/52-places-to-go-in-2015.html?_r=0

- **Chengdu Ranks Fourth in Tourist Satisfaction in National Survey**

The China Tourism Academy (CTA) announced a report on China’s index of tourist satisfaction and rankings of 60 cities in the country in this regard, at the Symposium on China City Tourism Development 2015, which took place on January 9 in Chengdu. The event was sponsored by CTA and organized by the website people.cn’s travel channel and the Travel Channel. On the rankings, Chengdu was ranked No.4 nationwide in the fourth quarter of 2014. Dai Bin, director of CTA, said that the 60 cities were selected from 600 ones across the country.

Link: <http://www.gochengdu.cn/news/culture-tourism/chengdu-ranks-fourth-in-tourist-satisfaction-in-national-survey-a1132.html#sthash.yrOx9trO.dpuf>

- **Chengdu's golden treasures are tops with tourists**
China Daily

The travel website TripAdvisor, recently announced its list of the world's most popular museums based on the comments of millions of travelers worldwide in 2014.

The Jinsha Site Museum in Chengdu, the capital of Southwest China's Sichuan province, was rated as one of the top 10 museums in China, along with the Qin Terracotta Army Museum in Xi'an, Shaanxi Province, the Shanghai Museum, the Shaanxi History Museum and the National Museum of China in Beijing.

Visitors to Chengdu expressed curiosity about the significance of a circular golden emblem that features four birds flying around a sun, and can be seen in many parts of the city and also on the hoods of taxis, the overpass on the route to the airport, and local television channels.

The emblem is a replica of the Golden Sun Bird, which was unearthed in the Jinsha Ruins in the western suburbs of Chengdu in early 2001 and is now on display in the Jinsha Museum.

Link: <http://www.gochengdu.cn/news/media-reports-on-chengdu/chengdu-s-golden-treasures-are-tops-with-tourists-a1172.html#sthash.XHN6Vpdd.dpuf>

- **Chengdu Listed as 3rd Popular Domestic Destination**

On a recent ranking of the most popular tourist destinations in China issued by Qunar.com, one of the famous online travel agencies in the country, Chengdu took the 3rd place in 2014, following Beijing and Shanghai. The ranking shows that Chengdu has become one of the most popular tourist cities nationwide. It was ranked 3rd in the country and 1st in western China in 2014 according to Internet searches by keywords involving hot tourist destinations in China.

Link: <http://www.gochengdu.cn/news/whats-news/chengdu-listed-as-3rd-popular-domestic-destination-a1164.html#sthash.9BCyqbyu.dpuf>

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