

## Guyana, China to boost trade ties

■ BEIJING

CHINA and Guyana yesterday agreed to boost trade and investment ties as well as promote their diplomatic relations.

The Xinhua News Agency, the official state news agency of the People's Republic of China, reported yesterday that Foreign Minister Wang Yi held talks with his Guyanese counterpart, Hugh Todd, here and affirmed Beijing's support for Guyana's independent development path and called for deeper cooperation through high-quality Belt and Road cooperation.

He proposed strengthening collaboration in energy, mining, agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing, and infrastructure, while also exploring new areas such as the digital and green economies.

Guyana was the first English-speaking Caribbean country to establish diplomatic ties with China, and is now China's largest trading partner in the region.

Wang said China will encourage Chinese investment in Guyana to support industrial upgrading and economic self-reliance.

Noting that China's development is not rooted in colonialism or geopolitical calculations, he said China will continue standing with developing countries, especially small and medium-sized nations, to uphold international fairness and justice, and work with the Global South to defend the core status of the United Nations and the basic norms governing international relations.

Todd, who has visited China over the last three consecutive years, said he has noted the deepening friendship between the two countries and praised Chinese companies' contributions to Guyana's development and welcomed further Chinese investment.

He said given current global challenges, he stressed the growing significance of China's series of global initiatives, expressing appreciation for China's leadership in improving global governance, saying that Guyana is willing to uphold multilateralism and defend international law and international

rules alongside China.

**-CMC**