Refugee Review Tribunal AUSTRALIA

RRT RESEARCH RESPONSE

Research Response Number:	CHN35149
Country:	China
Date:	10 July 2009

Keywords: China – Fuzhou-Xiamen Railway – Land resumption – Donglin village – Shangjing town

This response was prepared by the Research & Information Services Section of the Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT) after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the RRT within time constraints. This response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. This research response may not, under any circumstance, be cited in a decision or any other document. Anyone wishing to use this information may only cite the primary source material contained herein.

Questions

1. Please locate any information on the recent completion of the railway line from Jianxi Province to Xiamen and running through Fuqing.

2. Is there any information on resumption of property in the area of Donglin Village, Shangjing town about 35 kms from Fuqing City in April 2008?

RESPONSE

1. Please locate any information on the recent completion of the railway line from Jianxi Province to Xiamen and running through Fuqing.

The railway line referred to in the question appears to be the Fuzhou-Xiamen railway line currently nearing completion. Few details concerning this railway line were found in the sources consulted.

Sources indicate that the Fuzhou-Xiamen line is to form a part of the longer Ningbo to Shenzen railway line. At page 30 of a report released by the Central Policy Unit, Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region there is a diagram of the route. Also attached is a map of Ningbo to Shenzen region ('Fuzhou-Xiamen Railway Longest Tunnel Ran Through' 2008, *SinoCast China Business Daily News*, 12 June – Attachment 1; Central Policy Unit, Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region 2006, *Consultancy Study On Social, Economic And Political Developments In Pan-Pearl River Delta Region: Second Monthly Report Covering Fujian, Jiangxi, Hunan And Hainan*, June, pp.26,30 http://www.cpu.gov.hk/english/documents/new/press/2006pan-prd02A.pdf – Accessed 8 July 2009 – Attachment 2; 'Ningbo – Wenzhou – Fuzhou – Xiamen – Shenzhen' 2000, *Microsoft Encarta Interactive Atlas* – Attachment 3).

Two sources have reported the length of the Fuzhou-Xiamen line to be 275 and 273 kilometres respectively ('Fuzhou-Xiamen Railway Longest Tunnel Ran Through' 2008, *SinoCast China Business Daily News*, 12 June – Attachment 1; 'China Builds 200-kph Railway in Fujian' 2005, *Xinhua News Agency*, 4 October China.org.cn website http://mdjnkj.china.com.cn/english/travel/144180.htm – 8 July 2009 – Attachment 4).

Another report released by the Central Policy Unit of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government in 2004 mentions that the Fuzhou-Xiamen line connects the cities of Fuzhou, Putian, Quanzhou and Xiamen. It also noted that the railway will have 14 stations (Central Policy Unit, Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region 2004, *Consultancy Study On Socio-Economic-Political Trends In Pan-Pearl River Delta Region: First Monthly Report Part I Covering Fujian, Jiangxi, Hunan, And Hainan*, November, pp.33,37 <u>http://www.cpu.gov.hk/english/documents/new/press/pan-prd%20A01.pdf</u> – Accessed 10 July – Attachment 5).

Also on the route of the Fuzhou-Xiamen railway, using Google Translate, an entry in the Chinese-language version of *Wikipedia* states that line has 14 stations including "Minhou, Changle, Fuqing, Putian, 涵江, Xianyou, Huian, Quanzhou, Xiangan". With the assistance of a Chinese-speaking Tribunal staff member the untranslated "涵江" in the Google translation is "Hanjiang" ('福厦铁路[Fuzhou-Xiamen Railway]' (undated), *Wikipedia* <u>http://zh.wikipedia.org/wiki/%E7%A6%8F%E5%8E%A6%E9%93%81%E8%B7%AF</u> – Accessed 10 July 2009 –Attachment 6).

Notes in respect of Wikipedia and Google translations:

- (1) Users should be aware that <u>Wikipedia</u> is a Web-based free-content encylopaedia which is written collaboratively by volunteers. The Research Service recommends that users of Wikipedia familiarise themselves with the regulatory practices which Wikipedia employs as a preventative measure against vandalism, bias and inaccuracy.
- (2) Google translations can often be poor and can contain errors as such they give only a rough indication of the contents of a document. For any further reliance on this information, a better translation should be obtained.

Attached is a map showing the following locations: Fuzhou, Rongcheng (Fuqing), Shangjing, Hanjiang and Putian ('Fuzhou, Rongcheng (Fuqing), Shangjing, Hanjiang and Putian' 2000, *Microsoft Encarta Interactive Atlas* – Attachment 7).

The *Railway Gazette International* publication, citing China's Minister of Railways, reported that the Fuzhou-Xiamen railway line is due for completion in July 2009 and to open in November 2009 ('Pointers' 2009, *Railway Gazette International*, April <u>http://www.railwaygazette.com/news_view/article/2009/04/9507/pointers_april_2009.html</u> – Accessed 8 July 2009 – Attachment 8).

2. Is there any information on resumption of property in the area of Donglin Village, Shangjing town about 35 kms from Fuqing City in April 2008?

No information was found in the sources consulted on the resumption of property in the Donglin village area of Shangjing town.

Of some interest may be question 2 (pages 4-10) in a previous RRT research response, *CHN33724*, on reconstruction work on a highway between Shangjing and Longtian towns and compensation for those affected (RRT Research & Information 2008, *Research Response CHN33724*, 8 September, q.2/pp.4-10 – Attachment 9).

List of Sources Consulted

Internet Sources:

Google search engine <u>http://www.google.com.au/</u> Fujian Government website <u>http://www.fujian.gov.cn/</u> Railway Gazette <u>http://www.railwaygazette.com/</u> World Bank website <u>http://www.worldbank.org/</u>

Databases:

FACTIVA (news database)
BACIS (DIAC Country Information database)
REFINFO (IRBDC (Canada) Country Information database)
ISYS (RRT Research & Information database, including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, US Department of State Reports)
RRT Library Catalogue

List of Attachments

- 1. 'Fuzhou-Xiamen Railway Longest Tunnel Ran Through' 2008, *SinoCast China Business Daily News*, 12 June. (FACTIVA)
- Central Policy Unit, Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region 2006, Consultancy Study On Social, Economic And Political Developments In Pan-Pearl River Delta Region: Second Monthly Report Covering Fujian, Jiangxi, Hunan And Hainan, June <u>http://www.cpu.gov.hk/english/documents/new/press/2006panprd02A.pdf</u> – Accessed 8 July 2009.
- 3. 'Ningbo Wenzhou Fuzhou Xiamen Shenzhen' 2000, *Microsoft Encarta Interactive Atlas*. (CD ROM)
- 'China Builds 200-kph Railway in Fujian' 2005, *Xinhua News Agency*, 4 October China.org.cn website <u>http://mdjnkj.china.com.cn/english/travel/144180.htm</u> – 8 July 2009.
- 5. Central Policy Unit, Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region 2004, Consultancy Study On Socio-Economic-Political Trends In Pan-Pearl River Delta Region: First Monthly Report Part I Covering Fujian, Jiangxi, Hunan, And

Hainan, November <u>http://www.cpu.gov.hk/english/documents/new/press/pan-prd%20A01.pdf</u> – Accessed 10 July.

- 6. '福厦铁路[Fuzhou-Xiamen Railway]' (undated), Wikipedia <u>http://zh.wikipedia.org/wiki/%E7%A6%8F%E5%8E%A6%E9%93%81%E8%B7%A</u> <u>F</u> – Accessed 10 July 2009.
- 7. 'Fuzhou, Rongcheng (Fuqing), Shangjing, Hanjiang and Putian' 2000, *Microsoft Encarta Interactive Atlas*. (CD ROM)
- 8. 'Pointers' 2009, Railway Gazette International, April http://www.railwaygazette.com/news_view/article/2009/04/9507/pointers_april_2009. html – Accessed 8 July 2009.
- 9. RRT Research & Information 2008, Research Response CHN33724, 8 September.

10. Deleted