**Guizhou offers free training for tea farmers**

By JING ZHEN in Guiyang

Guizhou province launched a free training session for tea farmers in March, aiming to improve the quality of the tea industry ahead of China’s Tomb Sweeping Day to visit the cemetery, where multiple Chinese engineers and specialists around the world have been laid to rest.

The announcement was made by the provincial government, which said the training would cover both indoor lectures and field activities, with participants including tea farmers and businesspeople. The training will be held over seven sessions.

The first session started last month, and participants will be taught about tea planting, tea picking, tea processing, tea storage, and tea marketing.

The province said it would train more than 10 schools this year.

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China’s economy is expected to grow by around 4% this year, according to the government’s top advisory body.

The government has set a target of 6% for the country’s economic growth, which is seen as necessary to meet the needs of a rapidly growing middle class. But the target has been scaled back due to the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic.

China’s economy contracted by 6.8% in the first quarter of this year, compared with the same period in 2019. The government has put a series of measures in place to help the economy recover, includingcutting interest rates and boosting credit supply.

China’s economic growth is expected to pick up in the second quarter, with the authorities predicting a recovery later in the year. But the country remains under pressure to maintain its growth rate, as it faces a slowdown in the global economy.

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