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**Tariffs on China to "hit home for every American," warn U.S. industries**

NEW YORK, May 26 (Xinhua) -- Kevin Cheung, vice president of a New York-based clothing firm, recently twisted his ankle and is steadily recovering from an intense burning sensation on it.

Yet there are no signs of easing of the "slow burn" that his company, Lisa International, has suffered since the United States initiated tariff disputes with China last March.

As Washington increased tariffs on $200 billion worth of Chinese imports from 10 percent to 25 percent earlier in May and threatened to raise tariffs on more Chinese imports, this worsening trade row between the world's two largest economies has prolonged market uncertainty.

"Clothing tariff is still not in place yet, but we assume it will be here soon. This is a bigger concern to me," Cheung told Xinhua in a recent interview.

**CATASTROPHIC IMPACT**

Cheung's concern was shared by a growing number of U.S. industry leaders who warned the White House of the "catastrophic" impact on Americans with rising costs and dwindling profits.

"This latest escalation means the trade war will only get worse and hit home for every American," said a statement released on May 13 by the Tariffs Hurt the Heartland campaign, which comprises over 150 U.S. trade organizations.

The Footwear Distributors and Retailers of America, a trade organization, estimated the new tariffs could cost U.S. consumers 7 billion dollars a year. "It is time to bring this trade war to an end," said an open letter signed by 173 footwear companies.

In a study released Thursday, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said U.S. tariff revenue collected from levies on Chinese goods "has been borne almost entirely by U.S. importers."

"The bilateral trade deficit remains broadly unchanged," it added.

The latest U.S. tariff hikes will impose a total annual cost of 831 dollars for a typical U.S. household, said a research posted Thursday by the Federal Reserve (Fed) Bank of New York.

"In sum, according to our estimates, these higher tariffs are likely to create large economic distortions and reduce U.S. tariff revenues," it said.

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**"To decouple the American and Chinese economies would be an economic disaster, damaging each country and the entire world," Chairman of the Kuhn Foundation Robert Kuhn told Xinhua.**

Concurring with Kuhn, Sourabh Gupta, a senior fellow at the Washington-based Institute for China-America Studies, said "it is utterly unrealistic to uncouple China and the U.S. economically. The two economies are symbiotically connected and are too interdependent to be pried apart."

Criticizing Washington for pushing its trade partners into a "win-lose situation," Hoffman said mutually respectful trade "is the whole principle behind our system. And that principle still holds."

"In fact, such trade wars are just disruptive to business on both sides, which created uncertainty, confusion, and the whole supply chains and everything that businesses have planned for get turned upside down," he said.

"A mass shift of production out of China is not a viable option for our industry," said Mond. "The infrastructure, capacity and workforce to meet consumer demand does not exist anywhere else."

Although Cheung has started to diversify his company's supply base as part of his mitigation tactics, he said he "will not change to 100 percent out of China." "That would be foolish," he said.