

## **Tang Jiaxuan** **Minister of Foreign Affairs**

Tang Jiaxuan was born in 1938 at Zhenjiang in the province of Jiangsu. He graduated from the oriental languages department of Beijing University.

During the 1960s, Mr. Tang worked as an intern in the Japanese language section of the Radio Broadcasting Bureau and served with the Foreign Ministry's interpretation and translation team. From 1978 to 1983, he was the second secretary and first secretary of the Chinese Embassy in Japan. In China from 1983 to 1988, Mr. Tang worked for the Foreign Ministry as first secretary and deputy director-general of Asian affairs. He returned to Japan in 1988 as minister-counsellor, then minister, of the Chinese Embassy.

On his return to China in 1991, Mr. Tang became the assistant foreign minister and then vice-minister of protocol, Asian and consular affairs. He was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs in March 1998.

Mr. Tang is married and has one son.