

## CHINA

## Briefly

## HEILONGJIANG

## Rescue continues after mine flood

Two people were rescued 48 hours after an iron mine flooded and rescuers continued to search for other victims. As of 6 am on Sunday, six people remained trapped underground. The rescued miners were sent to the hospital. The accident occurred at the Cuihongshan mine in Xunke county at about 3 am on Friday, when 43 people were working underground, the county government said. A total of 35 people were lifted out of the mine soon after the flood occurred.

## SHANDONG

## Nuclear bomb residue found in ocean shrimp

Chinese scientists have discovered the signature of bomb radiocarbon C14 produced by thermonuclear tests in the muscle tissue of shrimp taken from the world's deepest ocean trench. The study, carried out by the Institute of Oceanology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, used amphipod samples taken from the Mariana Trench, Musau Trench and New Britain Trench in the western Pacific Ocean during China's scientific expedition. The finding indicates that pollution has reached the deepest places of the ocean via the food chain. The information was published in the latest issue of the science journal Geophysical Research Letters.

## LIAONING

## Smuggled parts seized; one suspect detained

More than 300 items of endangered species have been seized in Shenyang, local authorities said. So far, 104 ivory items, 208 pieces of red coral, hawksbill turtle parts and giant clam parts have been found. One suspect has been detained, customs officers said. Postal departments, airports, customs officers and wild animal protection organizations in Shenyang collaborated in a special campaign this year to curtail smuggling of endangered animal parts.

## BEIJING

## China adds 4 more national resorts

Four resorts in China have been given the title of national resort, bringing the total on the list to 30. According to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the four resorts include a mountain resort in Sichuan province; a river resort in Guilin, Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region; a lake resort in Yunnan province; and a farmland-themed resort in Guangdong province. Apart from ranking tourist attractions, China began granting the national resort title in 2015, aiming to boost the development of resort tourism.

XINHUA

## Fallen walkway



A pedestrian overpass rests on a truck carrying machinery after the truck ran into a pillar holding the walkway up in Hangzhou, Zhejiang province, on Saturday night. No one was injured in the incident. The driver, surnamed Ma, was held by the police. The road reopened on Sunday morning after a cleanup operation. XU KANGPING / FOR CHINA DAILY

## Legislators trained to read budgets better

Program organized to improve skills of around 220 who were elected last year

By CAO YIN

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A four-day training program organized by the National People's Congress Standing Committee helped deputies improve their ability to read and review national budget reports.

The sessions were the first with specialized topics to be held for the deputies since they were elected last year during the 13th NPC.

Some 220 deputies from various walks of life participated in the training, which was held from Tuesday to Friday in Beijing. Over the four days, classes and discussions were held on the budget, the macroeconomic situation, the fiscal system and fiscal reform, along with reviews of State-owned assets.

Some general training had been conducted over the past year, focusing on helping deputies to better carry out their duties. All new deputies attended the general training.

Zhao Yu, a deputy to the 13th NPC, said the training helped him in a number of ways.

"In the past, when I reviewed budget reports during the NPC

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Yang Zhenwu, secretary-general of the National People's Congress Standing Committee

sessions, I was a little bit confused because they were filled with economic or financial terms, which are difficult for those without the right background, such as me, to understand," said Zhao, a senior technician from Beijing Benz Automotive Co.

Thanks to the training, Zhao said, "I gained more knowledge about the budget, including the division of revenue and expenditures, and I have a deeper understanding of its significance for the country's development. The train-

ing, I believe, will help me effectively implement my duty in the future."

Making the budget the first special training topic highlights its importance in the NPC's work and enhances deputies' awareness of the country's account book, said Yang Zhenwu, secretary-general of the NPC Standing Committee.

"We hope deputies will improve their ability to review budget reports after the training, and then they can play a role in supervising the budget and related affairs," he said.

Zhu Lieyu, a deputy from Guangdong province, applauded the training, saying some difficulties he's had in reading budget reports had been removed by the sessions.

"The training offered me a platform to discuss things with other deputies and learn from professionals," said Zhu, a lawyer who oversees budgets for medical care. "Seeing a doctor is still difficult in some areas, so it's necessary for the country to put more budget money into health-care."

As the medical budget has increased, the supervision should also be strengthened to prevent fraud and ensure that funds are used in places where the need is most urgent, he added.

## Residents praise PLA soldier injured while clearing landmines

By ZHAO LEI

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1,000

Number of times Du Fuguo, a 27-year-old staff sergeant, has entered minefields

2,400

mines and explosives

have been detected and defused by Du Fuguo.

Pan Jinliang, a farmer from Bazi village in Yunnan province's Mengdong township near the Vietnam border, said he and his neighbors will always remember Du Fuguo.

"Du sacrificed for us. We will never forget him," Pan told Yunnan Daily recently.

Pan, who lost both his legs in landmine explosions on his farm — the lingering residue of China's past conflicts with Vietnam — said younger generations will no longer be haunted by landmines thanks to the heroic acts of Du and his fellow soldiers, members of a landmine clearing unit of the People's Liberation Army Ground Force.

Du, a 27-year-old staff sergeant who is now disabled, was named on Thursday as a national role model. He met with President Xi Jinping after attending a conference earlier in the day in Beijing at which 500 individuals and organizations were commended for their contributions to disabled people.

The new title is the latest honor the staff sergeant has received since Oct 11 when he lost his hands and eyes in a landmine clearing accident. After detecting an unexploded hand grenade he asked his partner to stand back and then began to defuse it. The grenade exploded and he was rushed to the hospital, but his injuries could not be repaired.

Du is now in a military hospital in Chongqing, undergoing rehabilitation.

Born in November 1991 in Guizhou province's Meitan county, Du joined the PLA Ground Force in December 2010 in a border defense regiment in Yunnan. In June 2015, he volunteered to take part in a massive landmine clearing operation that started in November that year.

The three-year operation, which

was ordered by Xi and involved 402 officers and soldiers, was completed in November. It was the third large-scale effort by the Chinese military to get rid of explosives left by a series of border clashes between China and Vietnam that flared up from the late 1970s to 1989. The first two clearance operations were in the 1990s.

The area Du was assigned to was a major battleground during the border conflicts and was Yunnan's most dangerous minefield. Tens of thousands of mines and other explosive devices were left behind when combat ended.

Du knew nothing about how to clear unexploded ordnance when he joined the operation so he spared no effort to learn and practice.

After three months of training, he was able to handle more than 10 types of landmines and also became skilled at using a mine detector.

During Du's time in the clearance unit, he entered minefields about 1,000 times, detected and defused about 2,400 mines and explosives and handled at least 20 dangerous situations. He was one of the top landmine sweepers in his unit.

For his heroic deeds, he was awarded several national and military honors and was given a first-class merit citation by the PLA.



Du Fuguo, a soldier who lost his eyes and hands during landmine sweeping in October, goes through a recovery session on a treadmill in a military hospital in Chongqing in April.

ZHANG YONGJIN / XINHUA

## IT TAKES JUST ONE MOVE TO PROTECT PANGOLINS

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The Nature  
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