

## CHINA



Rescuers search the landslide site in Xiangning county, Linfen, Shanxi province, on Saturday. WEI LIANG / CHINA NEWS SERVICE

## 10 dead as landslide topples residences in Shanxi

By **WANG KEJU** in Beijing  
and **SUN RUISHENG** in Taiyuan

At least 10 people died after a landslide toppled residential buildings in Shanxi province on Friday, local authorities said on Sunday. Ten others were missing.

As of 10 am Sunday, 16 people had been pulled out of the debris and sent to the hospital, but three died after medical treatment failed. Seven bodies were found at the site. Three of the reported 13 injured people had been discharged from hospital after treatment.

The landslide occurred at

around 6 pm on Friday in Linfen's Xiangning county. Two residential buildings, a makeshift house and a public bathhouse were toppled.

The Ministry of Emergency Management issued a Level IV emergency response, the lowest in the four-level system. Vice-Minister Fu Jianhua led a team to the site and guided the rescue work.

He Ning, deputy director of the operations training department of the ministry's fire and rescue bureau told CCTV that the rescue operation faced many difficulties.

The massive landslide made it difficult for the rescue team to find people still unaccounted for

because of its depth, he said, adding that the roads were narrow and blocked by collapsed buildings, which blocked the progress of heavy rescue equipment.

A crack that appeared on the surface of the mountain where the landslide occurred is widening, and there is considerable rockfall, which seriously jeopardizes the safety of the rescue team, he added.

There were 79 people in the area when the landslide occurred, 46 of whom made their way out of the danger zone by themselves. Thirteen were rescued, the local government said, adding that the

search was continuing for those missing, with the help of rescue dogs and life detectors.

More than 700 people, including public security officers, armed police, emergency rescue workers and medical staff have taken part in the rescue effort.

The local government has also organized an experts group to conduct a secondary disaster assessment and set up 24-hour observation stations. People in the surrounding area were evacuated to ensure their safety.

Contact the writers at  
[wangkeju@chinadaily.com.cn](mailto:wangkeju@chinadaily.com.cn)

## Party expels ex-national energy chief accused of misconduct

Nur Bekri, former head of the National Energy Administration, has been expelled from the Communist Party of China and dismissed from public office over serious violations of Party discipline and laws including taking bribes, the country's top anti-graft bodies announced on Saturday.

The Central Commission for Discipline Inspection and the National Supervisory Commission said in a statement that they had conducted an investigation into Nur Bekri, who had also served as deputy head of the National Development and Reform Commission.

Investigators found evidence that Nur Bekri took advantage of his positions to help others with employment promotions, operations of enterprises and exploitation of mineral resources, and that he took bribes himself or through relatives.

Other offenses included living an extravagant lifestyle and trading power for sex.

Nur Bekri showed no signs of restraint even after the 18th CPC National Congress, which strongly re-emphasized frugality rules and upright behavior, the statement said, adding that the case is serious and has had a bad influence, and he should be harshly punished.

His illicit gains have been confiscated, and his suspected crimes will be transferred to prosecutors for further action.

XINHUA



## Tea harvest underway

As temperatures rise, the tea harvest begins on a farm dedicated to poverty alleviation in Danzhai, Guizhou province, on Sunday. The farm is divided into small parcels, which are contracted to sponsors. Fees paid by the sponsors are used in part to pay the wages of the pickers. YANG WENBIN / XINHUA

## Subway security officer suspended for ordering woman to remove makeup

By **ZHENG CAIXIONG**  
in Guangzhou  
[zhengcaixiong@chinadaily.com.cn](mailto:zhengcaixiong@chinadaily.com.cn)

A female supervisor in charge of security checks at a subway station in Guangzhou, Guangdong province, has been suspended and will receive remedial training after asking a woman to remove her makeup before being allowed to enter the station.

In a statement released on its WeChat account on Saturday night, Guangzhou Metro said a thorough investigation had found that the supervisor had handled the situation inappropriately.

"Guangzhou Metro apologizes publicly to the victimized passen-

ger and to netizens, and will try to further improve its work and management to provide even better service," it said.

The subway operator said it welcomed suggestions and oversight by passengers and netizens and will join hands with public security bodies and other departments to create a civilized, harmonious and safe climate for the city's underground railway service.

The incident occurred on March 10, when a woman was stopped by security guards at Xiaogang station on Guangzhou's subway Line 2. The passenger, who was not carrying any prohibited items, was asked by the super-

visor to remove her "heavy" makeup before entering.

"Your makeup has problems; it's terrible," she told the passenger, who was wearing a long black dress and Goth-style makeup.

"Why did they ask me to remove my makeup when I did not violate any law or regulation for taking the train?" the passenger asked later in a social media post.

The post sparked public attention and concern, with most netizens criticizing the security staff.

Guangzhou's Line 2 runs between Jiahewanggang, in Baiyun district and Guangzhou South Rail Station in Panyu district. It is one of the busiest subway lines in the provincial capital.

### Briefly

#### SHANXI Deadly forest fire started by farmer

A forest blaze that killed six firefighters in Shanxi province last week started after a fire lit by a farmer raged out of control, authorities said on Sunday. The farmer from Dongwangyong village, Qinyuan county, was surnamed Huo, a source in the provincial Forest Public Security Bureau said. The fire broke out at around 3:35 pm on Thursday. More than 2,000 people

were dispatched to battle the blaze. At about 5 pm, seven firefighters became trapped because of a sudden change in wind direction. They were rescued and taken to hospital, but six of them died early Friday morning. The fire was extinguished by about 6:40 pm on Thursday.

#### LIAONING Customs seizes 95 ivory products

Eleven cases of ivory items being sent by mail have been investigated

and 95 ivory products weighing more than 11 kilograms have been seized this year in Liaoning province, customs authorities in Shenyang, the provincial capital, said. In one recent case, an X-ray scan showed some inbound mail from Japan declared as books did not conform to customs declarations. Officers later confirmed there were ivory items in the parcel. Items seized include ivory sculptures, accessories, tableware and art.

XINHUA

# Safety of food at schools scrutinized

Local authorities ordered to inspect operations, report findings by April 15

By **WANG XIAOYU**  
[wangxiaoyu@chinadaily.com.cn](mailto:wangxiaoyu@chinadaily.com.cn)

China's market regulator has ordered local food watchdogs to carry out safety inspections at schools and report their findings before April 15.

The move was announced over the weekend, following World Consumer Rights Day, which falls on March 15 each year. It is also the latest step in controlling food safety hazards after moldy food found at a primary school in Chengdu, Sichuan province, sparked an outcry.

Zhang Mao, minister of the State Administration of Market Regulation, said a host of issues, including inadequate training of food safety supervisors, unreliable suppliers, outdated facilities and patchy quality control, have made ensuring food safety at schools a complex and arduous task.

This year, incidents of food contamination at schools should be lower than 2018, Zhang said, and the proportion of catering services on campuses that employ a transparent working environment subject to public supervision should reach 70 percent.

The Ministry of Education and the National Health Commission will join forces to hold school principals accountable for providing acceptable food to students, and enhance monitoring and research on food-borne diseases, a conference held on Saturday determined.

The Chengdu incident came to light last week when photos of rotting meat, bread products and vegetables — purportedly taken at the primary school affiliated with Chengdu No 7 High School Development School — circulated online. Dozens of students reported diarrhea or stomach pains.

Local authorities said on Sunday that the principal has been removed and the school board will be reshuffled. All food stored in the campus cafeteria has been taken away, according to an earlier statement.

Local authorities said Jiang

Hong, the school principal, should take primary responsibility for the defective management, weak enforcement of food safety regulations and inability to resolve disputes connected with the scandal. A new principal has been appointed to improve the quality of education and logistics services on campus.

An investigation found that noodles made from potato starch in the school's cafeteria were moldy, while all other food was found to be safe.

Food safety concerns affecting children were spotlighted by China Central Television during a program devoted to consumers on Friday to mark World Consumer Rights Day. Business misconduct and violations are exposed during the show.

One prominent example this year revealed unsanitary conditions at facilities where spicy gluten strips are made. The strips are a cheap snack popular with teenagers and omnipresent at food stalls near schools.

The revelation prompted the State Administration of Market Regulation to urge immediate probes into companies named in the expose in Henan and Hunan provinces. Wider inspections of the industry that makes spicy strips and other low-priced snacks targeting teens will also be carried out, according to a statement published by the administration hours after the gala.

Local regulatory bodies are also taking action to verify and address consumer grievances voiced during the show.

The market regulation administration in Xiantao, Hubei province, has sealed all products at a local diaper company that was reported to have used substandard materials.

Market watchdogs in Jiangsu and Zhejiang provinces have launched spot checks on Grandma's Home, a well-known restaurant chain serving homestyle dishes, after one branch was found to have violated hygiene regulations in its kitchen. The problem store was suspended, and dozens of others were ordered to make corrections.

## 3 parents detained over fake photos of bad food

By **CHINA DAILY**

Three parents in Chengdu, Sichuan province, have been detained for faking photos of food in a primary school's cafeteria to make it appear moldy, the information office of the municipal government said on its social media account on Sunday.

The parents released photos of supposedly moldy food on Tuesday and said their children had diarrhea and blood in their stools after eating in the cafeteria.

Thirty-six students were taken to the hospital for health checks on Wednesday, but health authorities said no food-related problems were found.

The school said in a statement on the same day that it was "deeply sorry" and bore "inescapable responsibility" to the students. It said it had terminated its contract with the food supplier.

Huang Xiaodong, director of the district's education bureau, and Zhao Yong, deputy director of the market regulation bureau, were suspended on Friday for lax supervision.

However, local police told Red Star News, Chengdu Economic Daily's media platform, on Sunday that after watching a surveillance video from the cafeteria and interrogating the three parents, they discovered that images of "discolored" chicken legs and "moldy" tripe had been forged.

Surveillance video from the canteen's storage room showed three

people separately taking photos on Tuesday after putting ginger powder, a yellow seasoning, onto chicken, and one of them throwing red yeast rice onto the tripe.

Police said the trio went to the school with other parents to ask about food problems that some parents had recently revealed online. The canteen operator promised at a meeting that it would remove all the frozen food and seasoning from some relatively unknown brands.

"Parents saw the removal and misunderstood it as destroying evidence," the police told Red Star News. "They had conflicts with workers removing the food and took photos of the food to keep as evidence."

The police said the three parents admitted forging the photos to try to get more parents to protest against the school.

"I just wanted to make the photo look grosser and create a shock on the parents' WeChat group," the police quoted one of the parents as saying.

An investigation of the food quality at the canteen by the Chengdu administration of market regulation on Friday found that only noodles made from potato starch were moldy. There were no problems found with other food said to have gone bad, including frozen beef, meat pies, cuttlefish and chicken legs.

The primary school is affiliated with Chengdu No 7 High School Development School, in the city's Wenjiang district.