

CHINA

Eat better

A medical worker from the center for disease control and prevention in Shijiazhuang, Hebei province, gives students a lecture on food and nutrition at a primary school on Monday, which was National Student Nutrition Day. Various activities were carried out across the country to encourage students to develop healthy eating habits.

JIA MINJIE / FOR CHINA DAILY



Briefly

Radar supports space weather forecasts

China has built a mid-latitude high-frequency radar network in the country's northern regions to provide high-quality detection data for global space weather forecasts and warnings. The first batch of scientific detection results of the network was released at an international workshop of the Super Dual Auroral Radar Network, which opened in Beijing on Monday. The network, constructed by the National Space Science Center under the Chinese Academy of Sciences, was completed in October 2023. It's also a part of the second phase of China's Meridian Project, a space weather monitoring network comprising ground-based stations. China has made new breakthroughs in high-frequency coherent scattering radar technology and scientific research, and will deepen international cooperation in this field, the NSSC said.

Two killed, 10 injured in school knife attack

Two people were killed and 10 others were injured after a knife attack at a primary school in Guixi city, Jiangxi province, at around noon on Monday, local authorities said. The injured have received medical treatment, including six who were slightly harmed while trying to dodge the attacker, according to the local public security authorities. The female suspect surnamed Pan, 45, has been detained by the police. Further investigation is underway.

Offshore PV project gets underway

Construction of China's major offshore photovoltaic project began on Sunday in Lianyungang, located in eastern Jiangsu province, the Science and Technology Daily reported on Monday. The 2 million kilowatt PV demonstration project by the China National Nuclear Corporation, one of the country's largest nuclear power operators, integrates PV and nuclear power, which can effectively reduce the negative impact of nuclear energy on the marine ecosystem and supply more clean energy to neighboring cities. The project is expected to be connected to the grid for the first time in September and to operate at full capacity in 2025.

Rocket lifts four satellites into orbit

China on Monday launched a Long March-2D carrier rocket, which hauled four satellites into a preset orbit. The rocket lifted off at 11:06 am from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in the northern province of Shanxi. The launch was the 523rd flight mission of the Long March rocket series.

XINHUA

Aid-Xizang program turns traditional village into a popular tourism town

By **PALDEN NYIMA** and **DAQIONG** in Lhasa

Thanks to the aid-Xizang program, villagers in the autonomous region's Tashigang village now operate popular family guesthouses, which has brought them prosperity. Phuntsok, one of the earliest guesthouse operators in the village of Lunang township, Nyingchi city, started his business in the 1990s.

With support from Guangdong province as an aid-Xizang project, an investment of 1.01 billion yuan (\$142 million) has been pouring into the construction of Lunang International Tourism Town since 2011.

"There weren't many tourists in the village back in the 1990s, but since the area was turned into an international tourism town, both the tourism infrastructure and service quality have improved dramatically, and tourism has become a main income source for the villagers over the past few years," the 76-year-old said.

When the aid-Xizang project of Guangdong province conducted training on tourism services in 1998, villagers were invited to experience living in hotels, and they were taught hotel management and tourism services.

Before 2017, the tourists Phuntsok received were mainly hikers and cyclists. After 2017, more tourists arrived, and some even started reserving two to three months in advance for the peak season.

Since then, more and more villagers have been operating guesthouses.

"As the number of tourists has



Since the area was turned into an international tourism town, ... tourism has become a main income source for the villagers over the past few years."

Phuntsok, guesthouse operator in Lunang town, Nyingchi

increased dramatically in recent years, villagers have added various types of cultural activities and events such as horseback riding, archery and art performances," he said.

Currently, the tourist town has 12 hotels and 73 guesthouses, according to official statistics. In 2023, the town received 860,000 tourists, generating tourism revenue of nearly 90 million yuan.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the aid-Xizang program, and the Lunang International Tourist Town is a model project of Guangdong's efforts to help the autonomous region.

Lunang combines modernity with traditional Tibetan customs. Behind the blend of nature and culture lies the efforts of generations of cadres from Guangdong who have devoted themselves to aiding Xizang.

"Tourism is regarded as a major

industry in Guangdong, which is also a pillar industry of the city of Nyingchi in Xizang. Therefore, under the joint discussion between Guangdong and Xizang, the concept of building Lunang into an international tourism town was made," Wang Chen, deputy director of the Lunang Management Committee and a member of the 10th group of Guangdong cadres to aid Nyingchi, was quoted as saying by Xizang Satellite TV.

Guangdong has dispatched 10 groups of more than 800 cadres to Xizang, and more than 900 projects including industry, people's livelihoods, education, healthcare, roads and transportation have been launched, with investment totaling 12.6 billion yuan.

"Over the past 30 years, batches of aid-Xizang cadres from Guangdong have brought advanced work methods and management concepts to Nyingchi. Farmers and herdsmen have transformed their mindsets, learned new skills and become industrial workers thanks to the guidance of aid-Xizang cadres," said Wu Gengdan, leader of the working team.

Since 1995, the GDP of Nyingchi city has maintained an average annual growth of over 12.1 percent, reaching 23.5 billion yuan in 2023. The per capita disposable income of rural residents increased from 1,155 yuan in 1995 to 25,451 yuan last year, ranking first among the seven cities and prefectures in the region, data showed.

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Ex-girlfriend of 'Fat Cat' didn't scam him

By **TAN YINGZI** and **DENG RUI** in Chongqing

Chinese authorities have cleared the ex-girlfriend of a gamer who committed suicide in April, finding no evidence of financial wrongdoing.

Liu Jia, 21, known online as "Fat Cat," took his own life in the Yangtze River after breaking up with his girlfriend, surnamed Tan, 27. The case gained national attention after his sister, Liu Yi, accused the ex-girlfriend of defrauding her brother.

An investigation by the Nan'an District Public Security Bureau concluded Sunday that Liu and Tan were in a genuine relationship for

over two years, during which time they shared finances and planned a future together. The police found no proof that Tan fabricated facts or defrauded Liu.

Following mediation, Tan reconciled with Liu's parents and repaid any financial discrepancies. Police closed the case against Tan on May 11, and Liu Yi acknowledged the decision.

However, the investigation revealed that Liu Yi manipulated online discourse after her brother's death. She posted private messages and financial transactions between Liu and Tan on Douyin, the Chinese version of the TikTok video-sharing platform.

Liu Yi also used fake accounts to comment on posts and sway discussions while memorializing her brother. She encouraged others to reveal Tan's personal information, leading to online harassment and threats.

Liu Yi admitted to these actions, and police are considering further charges based on their investigation. The "Fat Cat Incident" has sparked discussions about relationships and online behavior.

"Public opinion should not override legal judgment," China Women's News commented Monday.

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Xinjiang gas pipeline hits transportation milestone

By **WANG XIAOYU** in Beijing and **MAO WEIHUA** in Urumqi

The Horgos Compressor Station — a flagship station on China's West-East Gas Pipeline project in the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region — recently surpassed a milestone by transporting over 500 billion cubic meters of natural gas, according to China Oil and Gas Pipeline Network Corp, China's largest energy infrastruc-

ture owner, also known as Pipe-China.

The project has supported the development of 27 provincial-level regions and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region through downstream services, and has met the energy demands of over 500 million residents, the company said on Tuesday.

The station is situated at a critical juncture of China's Belt and Road Ini-

tiative and represents a leading facility among the nation's west-east gas pipelines No 2 and 3. It is responsible for transporting natural gas from Central Asia and coal gas from the Ili Kazak autonomous prefecture to central and eastern regions of China.

With an annual transmission capacity of 60 billion cubic meters and a total power generation of 240 megawatts in its natural gas compressors, the station ranks first in

Desert restored via grassland protection

Horqin left banner turns desolation to green by embracing natural methods

By **YAN DONGJIE**
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On grassland in Horqin Left Wing Rear Banner, clusters of white flowers bloom on the Chinese hawthorn. In this area, where grazing is prohibited, trees, shrubs and grass coexist, presenting a green landscape in the spring.

Horqin Left Wing Rear Banner is located in the southeastern part of Horqin Sandy Land in the Inner Mongolia autonomous region. Due to ecological imbalances, the land here had a desertification rate as high as 80 percent decades ago, making it one of the most severely desertified areas in the country with an extremely fragile ecology.

"The Chinese hawthorn is a typical native tree species, and its growth plays a crucial role in improving the local ecosystem. We have been researching the optimal tree density for the best natural ecological restoration," said Wang Feng, a professor and the director of the Policy and Strategic Development for Combating Desertification, Chinese Academy of Forestry.

He emphasized that the goal is not to completely eradicate every grain of sand but to stabilize and balance the sand by having grass, trees and shrubs present.

Wang explained that this grassland is a sparse tree grassland, a naturally formed landscape. The terrain of the sand dunes is uneven, making engineering methods challenging, so natural restoration methods are more suitable.

"In this area, with Chinese hawthorn, maple, elm trees and some shrubs in between, a symbiotic ecosystem of trees, shrubs and grass has formed. Without overgrazing and large-scale cultivation, based on the natural conditions here, this natural landscape can be maintained. Once this state is achieved, the sand will no longer shift, and the sand dunes will no longer pose a threat," he said.

Chen Hui, Party secretary and director of the Forestry and Grassland Bureau of Horqin Left Wing Rear Banner, mentioned that to advance the governance of the sandy land, the local government has implemented comprehensive grazing bans in certain areas.

"Depending on local conditions, the autonomous region and banner government provide subsidies to herdsmen, which can be used to purchase feed to raise cattle and sheep. As long as the farmers' income is ensured, everyone

will naturally cooperate to protect the forests and grasslands, helping to achieve a faster restoration of the natural landscape," he explained.

In addition to grazing bans, in recent years Horqin Left Wing Rear Banner has been planting trees.

"In Horqin Sandy Land, where evaporation rates are high and wind speeds are significant, the local area has developed the 'deep planting and shallow burial' afforestation technique based on these environmental characteristics," said Chaoke Tu, director of Horqin Left Wing Rear Banner Forestry Station.

"Deep planting and shallow burial" is a new planting technique, involving planting seedlings in deep pits and covering them with a shallow layer of soil.

He mentioned that over the past decade, using this method to plant Mongolian Scot pine trees has increased survival rates to over 90 percent from about 50 percent. The seedlings grow vigorously, saving around 15,000 yuan per hectare in costs and reducing watering frequency by half, saving more than half the water resources.

Horqin Sandy Land is China's largest sandy area and one of the three main battlefields of the "Three-North" Shelterbelt Project of China, covering parts of Inner Mongolia, as well as Liaoning and Jilin provinces. In Inner Mongolia alone, the total area exceeds 5.7 million hectares and involves Tongliao and Chifeng cities, as well as Hinggan League.

The "Three-North" project covers 13 provinces and regions in the north of China and the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps, with a total area exceeding 42 percent of the country's land area. Begun in 1978, the project is expected to last until 2050.

In Horqin Sandy Land, people employ methods such as using grass to stabilize the sand, aerial seeding for afforestation, road-based sand control and photovoltaic sand control to advance the governance of the sandy land.

By 2030, the autonomous region plans to achieve a desertification control rate of over 85 percent in Horqin Sandy Land.



Online
See more by scanning the code.



Workers carry straw used to control sand in Horqin Left Wing Rear Banner, Inner Mongolia autonomous region. LIAN ZHEN / XINHUA

tares," the company said. "The station has improved the quality of the ecological environment along the pipeline and has advanced the nation's efforts to transform its energy structure to a green and low-carbon one."

Meanwhile, the station has also utilized waste heat from compressor units to build the country's first waste heat power generation initiative at a natural gas transmission station.

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