

Pipeline canceled after thousands protest

By **CANG WEI** and **SONG WENWEI** in Nanjing

A water discharge project was canceled in the coastal city of Qidong, Jiangsu province, because of strong protests from residents.

In the early hours of Saturday, thousands of people gathered in front of the government office and in adjacent streets to protest a water pipeline project, an investment of Japan's Oji Paper Group.

Zhang Jianxin, deputy mayor of Qidong, said on the city's website on Saturday that the project was still under evaluation and

would be "suspended" if residents oppose it.

The government has formed a department to collect residents' complaints and suggestions, Zhang said.

Ding Dawei, Party chief of Nantong, which administers Qidong, said later on Saturday that the wastewater pipeline will be canceled permanently and that the public should trust the government.

Protesters dispersed after the government announced the cancellation of the project on television, the Internet and radio.

Qidong, a city of 1.12 million, is located on the north side of the

Yangtze River, facing Shanghai across the river.

The pipeline would have discharged 150,000 tons of wastewater a day into Tanglu Port, one of the city's renowned fishing harbors about 100 kilometers from the Qingcaosha Reservoir, a source of Shanghai's drinking water, according to Zhang Zaifeng, director of Nantong's environmental monitoring center.

"We're afraid the project will severely affect Qidong's fishing industry," a resident who gave her name as Xiao said before the project was canceled. "More than 140,000 people in the city rely on the fishing industry. How can

they make a living if the sea is polluted?"

Xiao said that since the construction of the paper factory in Nantong in 2007, Qidong residents kept expressing opposition to the wastewater pipeline.

Liu Weiye, a 26-year-old resident, said during the protest on Saturday that local police had shown great patience, even when some people grabbed them by their hair and clothes.

Oji Paper denied that the pipeline would cause pollution.

"Our factory in Nantong adopts very strict water quality management measures. We release water after purification,

and the water meets national standards," according to a statement on the Chinese website of the Oji Paper Group.

Zhang Zaifeng said that compared with the traditional papermaking industry, modern papermaking is much more environmentally friendly.

"The government of Nantong conducted studies three years ago and concluded that the influence of Oji Paper's wastewater would be very limited and could be totally under control."

"But we cannot be too cautious if it's connected with the health of our children and other family members," said the resi-

dent Liu. "We still worry about pollution and prefer that the pipeline is not built in our city."

Tang Jun, a social policy researcher with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said: "It's positive and effective for the local government not to use the force and to cancel the project in a day."

Similar protests over environmental pollution have been reported in China recently, including one this month against the fallout from a copper alloy plant in Shifang, Southwest China's Sichuan province.

"Some local governments failed to release enough infor-

mation about projects before construction began," Tang said. "They should let the public discuss the issues from the beginning so the public knows more about the projects, dispelling their concerns."

Tang also said that closing all possibly polluting manufacturing industries would improve the environment, but it's not practical.

"A large proportion of the country's population now works in manufacturing," he said.

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Haixun 01, the largest and most advanced patrol vessel in China, was launched in Wuhan, Hubei province, on Saturday.

WAN HOUDE / XINHUA

China launches advanced patrol vessel

By **TAN ZONGYANG** tanzongyang@chinadaily.com.cn

China launched its largest and most advanced patrol vessel Haixun 01 on Saturday in Wuhan, Hubei province, as the nation steps up efforts to protect its marine sovereignty and enhance rescue efficiency on its coastal waters.

The new flagship is the first patrol vessel capable of completing both maritime surveillance and rescue missions, according to a statement from the Shanghai Maritime Bureau, which will manage the ship.

The vessel is responsible for cruising on China's territorial waters, searching and saving lives at sea, investigating mari-

time disputes, monitoring oil spills and conducting emergency disposals, the statement said, adding the vessel can also tow ships and put out fires on other boats.

The 5,418-ton ship is 128.6 meters in length. It can sail at speed of 37 km per hour, and has a maximum sailing distance of 18,520 km without refueling.

Helicopters can take off and land on platforms on board to get refueled or execute life-saving and searching tasks, Tang Gongjie, general manager of Wuchang Shipbuilding Industry Co Ltd, the builder of the ship, was quoted as saying by Xinhua News Agency.

The ship can provide accom-

modation to as many as 200 people in sea accidents. It is equipped with devices to offer basic medical treatment and surgeries.

Haixun 01 is expected to be on duty by the end of the year, Xinhua reported.

The standard of China's maritime administration equipment will be greatly enhanced after Haixun 01 is put into service, benefiting the country in sea transport safety, maritime environment protection and safeguarding the nation's sovereignty, said Huang He, deputy head of the maritime bureau of the Transport Ministry.

As of May 2011, China had about 300 marine surveillance ships, including 30 ships

weighing more than 1,000 tons, and 10 planes, including four helicopters, to monitor marine affairs.

There are two patrol vessels weighing more than 3,000 tons, Haixun 11 and Haixun 31, and a 1,500-ton patrol vessel, Haixun 21.

"The new move sent a strong signal to the outside world that China is attempting to conduct more surveillance in its own waters," said Ni Lexiong, an expert on maritime policy at the Shanghai University of Political Science and Law.

Ni said the building of large patrol vessels, instead of military ships, shows that the country aims to solve sea disputes with neighboring counties in a

peaceful way.

Ni also said the move shows China is taking action to protect its legal rights as the number of sea disputes with other countries has surged recently.

"In the past, the patrol fleet, ocean inspection fleet and fishery administration fleet have been mainly comprised of old vessels decommissioned from the navy, but now we see more and more brand-new advanced ships being made and put into use."

Authorities at China Marine Surveillance, the country's marine supervisory administration, said in May that China is expected to build 36 inspection ships to join the surveillance fleet by 2013.

Professor shown to be a fraud

By **LUO WANGSHU** luowangshu@chinadaily.com.cn



A man assumed the academic identity of a Yale University assistant professor who has the same name as him for several months.

Lu Jun joined Beijing University of Chemical Technology as a professor in November. His resume listed seven articles published by top English-language academic journals, including Nature, Development Cell and Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

But the articles were the work of an assistant professor at Yale University whose name is written as Lu Jun in pinyin, the system for transcribing Chinese characters into Latin script, and English, but in Chinese characters the names were written differently.

"Those seven publications listed on his website were indeed my work," Lu at Yale wrote in an e-mail to the well-known academic-fraud blogger Fang Zhouzi. "The two of us are not the same person. Our Chinese names are spelled the same (in English), but with different characters."

China Daily was unable to contact the Yale professor on Sunday. However, according to information on the university's website, Lu Jun is an assistant professor of genetics. He received his PhD from Boston University in 2003.

According to a notice posted on the Beijing college's website on Saturday, Lu Jun forged his postdoctoral research experience at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, also stolen from his namesake. He has been dismissed, the notice said.

Lu had been a candidate for the Thousand Talents Program, also known as the Recruitment Program of Global Experts, which recruits top overseas scholars to work in China.

The program provides large research funding and other research opportunities to participants. Aside from the fraudulent Lu, 217 scholars have been selected as candidates for the program.

According to the campus chronicle of Beijing University of Chemical Technology in March, Lu Jun was the first member of its faculty selected as a candidate for the program.

The program committee issued an online statement on Friday saying Lu has been removed from the candidate list, less than three hours after the forgery was exposed by Fang Zhouzi.

Fang continued to investigate Lu's education back-

ground and previous work experience, saying that Lu also stole a PhD degree from University of Toronto from someone else of the same name.

Fang said that the real Lu Jun, who received his PhD degree from University of Toronto in 2004, is originally from Taiwan.

Fang is uncertain whether Lu stole the third Lu Jun's work experience at Merck & Co, a pharmacy company in the United States.

"Lu has stolen his education, work experience and publications from three different people of the same name, which is kind of creative," Fang wrote in his micro blog.

He praised the talents' program committee for its quick response.

Lu is the second professor who has been dismissed because of fraud in the past week.

The other is Fu Jin, former medical professor from Xiamen University, who forged her PhD diploma from Columbia University.

An associate professor at Peking University, Liu Yunshan, said the reason behind academic fraud is the overheated value of "fancy degrees."

"Many people seek fancy degrees for the superficial value of certificates while ignoring the real value of education," she said.

Che Weimin, an official at the Chinese Service Center for Scholarly Exchange, said it is essential to establish a reliable qualification recognition system, adding that all overseas degrees must be verified by the Ministry of Education.

Yi Shenghua, a Beijing lawyer at Yingke Law Firm, said it is hard to say whether Lu will face a criminal charge of fraud because there is no clear evidence to show Lu directly financially benefited from the fraud.

"Academic fraud is a question of personal morality, but criminal fraud is a harsh accusation that must be supported by solid evidence of financial gain from cheating," Yi added.

Hainan's largest fishing fleet returns from voyage

By **JIN HAIXING** in Beijing and **HUANG YIMING** in Haikou

A fleet of 30 boats, one of the largest in the history of Hainan province, returned on Sunday after finishing an 18-day fishing operation in the South China Sea.

The operation involved a 3,000-ton supply vessel, Qiong Sanya F8168, and 29 fishing boats. The 30 boats returned to a port in Sanya, Hainan, at 6:50 am, according to a statement from Hainan fishery authorities.

The fleet set sail for the fishing operation on July 12. The 30 boats reached waters near Yongshu Reef, Zhubi Reef and Meiji Reef in Nansha Islands and fished in those areas.

The operation was an ocean fishing trial in the South China

Sea, and the fleet collected data of the exploration of fishing resources in the area, local fishery authorities said.

The operation lasted 18 days, and the voyage exceeded 3,268 km, the statement said. It was arranged by fishermen in Hainan voluntarily.

Eighteen of the 29 fishing boats belong to the Sanya Haiyu Fishers' Association, and 11 are from the Sanya Yufeng Fishers' Association.

"Nansha Islands have plenty of fishing resources. With the establishment of Sansha city and support from the government, we will go to the South China Sea for fishing more often," the operation's deputy commander, Liang Yapai, said on Sunday.

According to local fishery authorities, the operation

marked the beginning of large oceangoing fishing. The province will gradually move from offshore fishing to oceangoing fishing.

The waters around Sansha have a potential fishery volume of 5 million metric tons every year. But currently Hainan has only 80,000 tons of fishing production, according to official figures.

On July 24, China established Sansha city to administer the archipelagos of Nansha, Xisha and Zhongsha. The new city also covers the islands' surrounding waters.

A military garrison has also been established in the city.

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Fisherwoman Liang Yazhen is greeted by her granddaughter upon her return from a fishing voyage in the South China Sea on Sunday.

HOU JIANSUN / XINHUA