

Submersible Jiaolong completes dives in S. China Sea



Jiaolong, China's manned submersible, is about to dive into the South China Sea, south China, May 10, 2017. [Photo/Xinhua]

Jiaolong, China's manned submersible, conducted its ninth and final dive in the South China Sea Wednesday.

Jiaolong stayed underwater for nine and a half hours in its ninth dive in the second stage of China's 38th ocean scientific expedition, which will last until May 13.

The maximum depth of the dive was 1,897 meters in the Puyuan Seamount.

Three crew in the submersible brought back samples of seawater from near the seabed, sediment, high-definition photographs and video footage.

The 38th oceanic scientific expedition started on Feb. 6. Jiaolong completed a dive in the northwestern Indian Ocean earlier this year in the mission's first stage. It will also conduct surveys in the Yap Trench and the Mariana Trench in the third stage.

Named after a mythical dragon, Jiaolong reached its deepest depth of 7,062 meters in the Mariana Trench in June 2012.

China provides update on returned corruption fugitives



An unidentified fugitive returns from Indonesia to China. [Photo/Xinhua]

China Wednesday released an update on the cases of 40 corruption fugitives on the Interpol red list who have either voluntarily returned or been extradited to China, including two spared from prosecution.

As of Monday, 15 returnees had already been sentenced to terms of up to life in prison, according to a statement from the office in charge of fugitive repatriation and asset recovery under the central anti-corruption coordination group.

The cases of another nine fugitives have been accepted by courts, but no sentence has yet been given.

Another 13 cases are still under investigation or awaiting review, including the case of Yang Xiuzhu, the No. 1 most wanted on the red notice list, according to the office.

One case was withdrawn in late 2015 after prosecutors confirmed the death of the suspect, Gu Zhenfang, in Thailand.

Among the 15 fugitives already convicted is Li Huabo, a former local finance official in east China's Jiangxi Province, who was sentenced to life

imprisonment in January.

Li's illicit gains worth 4.83 million yuan (700,000 U.S. dollars) were returned and 5.5 million Singapore dollars (4 million U.S. dollars) was confiscated.

Li, who fled the country in January 2011, remained in Singapore until he was repatriated in May 2015.

In a separate case, Fu Yaobo and Zhang Qingzhao were sentenced to life imprisonment for bribery and embezzlement in August last year.

Zhang Dawei was exempted from criminal prosecution in November 2016 because Zhang had confessed his crime and returned all his illegal gains voluntarily.

Two of the fugitives, Zhu Zhenyu and Zhang Liping, were spared prosecution because Zhu was an accessory to the crime and turned himself in voluntarily, while Zhang's offense involving falsifying value added tax invoices was minor.

The handling of these cases reflects China's policy for the fugitive hunt, namely offering leniency to those who voluntarily return to China while meting out harsh penalties for those who are brought to justice after being arrested, the statement said.

The Interpol red notice of 100 Chinese corruption fugitives was released in April 2015.

As a move to close a loophole in China's renewed anti-corruption drive, which in the past mainly targeted domestic corruption and left out those who have fled the country, China has launched operations such as "Sky Net" and "Fox Hunt" in recent years, focusing mainly on corruption fugitives and assets recovery overseas.

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[China to offer all help to school bus crash relatives](#)

China will offer every assistance to crash relatives, ministry says

The Chinese leadership has issued instructions for relevant departments and localities to help deal with the aftermath of the deadly Tuesday traffic accident in Weihai, Shandong province, the Foreign Ministry said on Wednesday.

Twelve people, including 11 kindergarten pupils, were killed when a school bus crashed and then burst into flames as it traveled through a tunnel in the coastal city in northern China.

Of the 11 children, who were aged between three and six, five were from the Republic of Korea and six were Chinese nationals. They were all pupils at an international kindergarten in Weihai, Xinhua quoted local authorities as saying.

“The Chinese side is in communication with the ROK through diplomatic channels” and will help with any issues to be resolved, said a written statement issued on the ministry’s website.

Members of the ministry’s staff have been assigned to provide comfort and assist the families of the dead, the statement said.

Shandong province and Weihai city launched contingency response plans immediately after the crash, and leading local officials went to the site and guided operations by relevant departments, it said.

[Duo detained for killing swan in downtown Shanghai](#)



Two men has been detained by police for allegedly stealing and killing a black swan from Xujiahui Park in Shanghai, police said.

The duo, surnamed Zhou and Wang, allegedly stole the black swan around 1am on

April 20 from the park and slaughtered it at their rented home. Zhou confessed to police they kept it in the fridge and planned to eat it later. They later threw it away because it didn't taste good.

The suspects had planned to catch fish in the first but gave up after seeing security guards patrolling. On their way out, they saw the black swan and grabbed it around its neck, police alleged.

The missing of the bird was reported to the police on April 20 by the park securities who also provided surveillance footage.

The two people were detained on charges of hunting and killing wild animal and further investigation is underway, police said.