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## Xi says nation can win total victory in NCP fight

By CAO DESHENG  
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President Xi Jinping said on Tuesday that China has the confidence and capability to secure full victory in the battle against the novel coronavirus pneumonia outbreak while also completing its socioeconomic tasks.

He made the remarks while speaking over the phone with Indonesian President Joko Widodo.

Xi said he is confident that China will become even stronger and more prosperous after winning the fight against the epidemic.

In a phone conversation with Qatari Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani on Tuesday evening, Xi said that since the start of the NCP outbreak, all of the Chinese people have united to make all-out efforts and take the most comprehensive and rigorous measures to prevent and control the contagion.

The country has launched a people's war against NCP, Xi said, adding that the measures China has taken have produced positive results.

Depending on the concerted efforts of the Chinese people, the advantage of the country's system that enables it to pool all available

resources to deal with major problems, the strong material and technological support as well as abundant experience in responding to the contagion, China will win the battle to control the epidemic, he said.

Beijing has actively worked with the international community to deal with the epidemic, and has called on countries around the world to make united efforts in a rational way.

United States President Donald Trump, French President Emmanuel Macron, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Saudi Arabian King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud have expressed their support for China's efforts to fight the epidemic while talking with Xi over the phone.

Other leaders, such as Russian President Vladimir Putin and top leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Kim Jong-un, also expressed faith in their letters to Xi that under his leadership, the Chinese government and people have the capability to curb the spread of the virus.

Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen visited China on Feb 5 and had a meeting with Xi in Beijing to demonstrate his full support for China in the fight against the virus.



Patients who have recovered from novel coronavirus pneumonia celebrate with medical workers before they are discharged from a temporary hospital in Wuhan, Hubei province, on Tuesday. ZHU XINGXIN / CHINA DAILY

## Fewer new infections, more cured

### Expert: Turning point of epidemic linked with control efforts during traffic peak

By WANG XIAODONG in Wuhan  
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The number of new confirmed cases of novel coronavirus pneumonia on the Chinese mainland outside Hubei province, the heart of the epidemic, has been decreasing for seven consecutive days, the National Health Commission said, adding that more patients have been cured and discharged from hospitals due to improved treatment.

A total of 381 new confirmed cases were reported outside Hubei on Monday, compared with 444 on Sunday and 890 on Feb 3, according to the commission on Tuesday.

In total, 2,478 new confirmed cases were reported on the Chinese mainland on Monday, compared with 3,062 on Sunday, the commission said.

World Health Organization chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said in Geneva on Tuesday that the virus had been named COVID-19, explaining that it was important to avoid stigma and that other names could be inaccurate, Reuters reported. The first vaccine for the coronavirus could be available in 18 months, "so we have to do everything today using available weapons", he said.

He Qinghua, deputy director of the commission's Disease Control and Prevention Department, said on Tuesday that the outbreak on the Chinese mainland has shown an overall downward trend even when Hubei province is included.

The number of existing confirmed cases of the virus on the Chinese mainland reached 37,626 as of late Monday night, with 1,016 fatalities. Nearly 4,000 had been cured and released from hospital, the commission said.

It is still not clear when the epidemic will reach its peak, Zhong Nanshan, a member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering and a prominent respiratory expert, said on Tuesday, adding that it may occur in mid or late February.

However, the turning point of the outbreak will be decided by the prevention and control efforts during the coming traffic peak involving hundreds of millions of migrant workers returning to work after the Spring Festival holiday, Zhong said.

Mi Feng, a spokesman for the commission, said on Monday that among the total number of reported cases on the Chinese mainland, the percentage of recovered patients has continued to rise, including in Hubei and its

capital Wuhan. The figure for the mainland was 8.2 percent on Sunday, compared with 1.3 percent on Jan 27. The figure in Wuhan increased from 2.6 percent to 6.2 percent during the same period, Mi said.

Mi said that the rising recovery rate showed that the medical rescue efforts around China are paying off.

Since the start of the outbreak in Wuhan in December, authorities across China have sent medical teams to assist the city's treatment efforts. As of Sunday, nearly 20,000 medical workers from outside the province had been sent to Hubei.

Zhang Nuofu, vice-president of the First Affiliated Hospital of Guangzhou Medical University, in Guangzhou, Guangdong province, who has been sent to Wuhan Union Hospital, said he had been treating patients at the hospital since Feb 3.

"We have been communicating with our colleagues in the hospital in Guangzhou every day to discuss clinical and research work," he said. "Reducing the mortality rate among seriously ill patients is our top priority."

In Wuhan, the city hit hardest by the outbreak, the reported number of new suspected cases has also seen a general downward trend — from 2,071 on Feb 5 to 961 on Monday, which shows the effect of the stringent measures recently taken by the city to admit all patients and

suspicious cases to hospitals and other temporary facilities for treatment and quarantine.

The decrease in the number of suspected cases in Wuhan may ease the shortage of medical resources in the city and makes it possible for patients to receive better treatment so the number of critical cases can be reduced, the commission said.

Zhong, the respiratory expert, said on Tuesday that greater efforts are still needed in Wuhan to identify cases and quarantine them as early as possible to prevent spread of the disease.

Although the median incubation period of the virus is three days, it could be as long as 24 days in very rare cases, according to research led by Zhong published on Sunday. The research was based on 1,099 novel coronavirus patients selected from 552 hospitals across China.

On Monday an advance group of a team of international experts led by the WHO arrived in China to lay the groundwork for the rest of the team members who will cooperate with their Chinese counterparts against NCP, Xinhua News Agency reported.

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## LAW CHANGE AIMS TO FURTHER PROTECT WILDLIFE

Parallels drawn with SARS outbreak in 2003

By XU LIN  
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China plans to amend the Law of Wild Animal Protection to crack down on those indiscriminately trading or eating wildlife, the top legislature said on Monday.

An amendment to this law has been added to this year's legislative agenda of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, according to the committee's Legislative Affairs Commission.

Wang Ruihe, director of the commission's Economic Law Department, said, "Public health security risks brought by the wildlife trade and the consumption of such animals have attracted a high degree of attention across the world. It's very likely that the novel coronavirus pneumonia outbreak was transferred to humans from wild animals and then progressed to human-to-human transmission."

To ensure public health and safety, and strengthen risk management, the commission decided

to improve laws on wildlife protection and strengthen law enforcement supervision to combat the illegal trade in wild animals and to eliminate excessive hunting and indiscriminate consumption of such animals, Wang said.

The Law on Wild Animal Protection, which was revised in 2016, has made the protection of wildlife a priority, he said, calling on people to follow the regulations and urging government departments to provide strict supervision, but there are still some problems with this legislation.

"Related rules to support the law have not been put forward promptly, while specific methods, directions, standards and technical regulations to protect wildlife have also yet to be introduced," Wang said.

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## Production battle



Workers produce medical protective clothing at Beijing BW Tech-Textile Co on Tuesday. All the products will be sent to front-line medical workers fighting novel coronavirus pneumonia. The company, with 240 employees, is running at full capacity.

ZOU HONG / CHINA DAILY

## Openness seen as key to *American Factory's* Oscar award

By HONG XIAO in New York  
and XU FAN in Beijing

When a husband-and-wife team wanted to make a documentary on a Chinese-owned factory in Ohio, the company provided them open access.

Perhaps it was that unfiltered look at Fuyao Glass America in Moraine, Ohio, that helped motivate members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences to award the film *American Factory* the Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature on Sunday.

The documentary garnered



A poster for *American Factory*

heightened publicity in April 2019, after it was acquired by former United States president Barack Obama and former first lady Michelle Obama's production company Higher Ground as the company's first project, in partnership with Netflix.

See **Film award**, page 3

## Locally tailored rules urged for resuming production

By OUYANG SHIJIA,  
ZHENG YIRAN in Beijing  
and ZHAO RUIXUE in Jinan

China is dedicated to speeding up production and resuming work as part of its larger drive to fight the novel coronavirus pneumonia outbreak and maintain economic stability, the country's top economic regulator said on Tuesday.

Cong Liang, secretary-general of the National Development and Reform Commission, said at a news conference that although resuming work may increase the risk of the epidemic's spread, suspended business operations will hurt the supply of medical materials and daily necessities, which is not a sustainable option.

"On the one hand, we'll strive to prevent the spread of the epidemic.

On the other, we will also focus on minimizing the economic fallout and shoring up the supply of daily necessities and urgently needed goods to deal with the coronavirus."

The central government urged different regions to introduce differentiated measures and arrange for workers to return to work in groups, in line with their own conditions, rather than all at once in order to reduce infection risks and maintain economic stability, Cong said.

For areas with a severe epidemic situation, their priority should be the epidemic prevention and control. Regions less affected by the epidemic should set up operation resumption standards and gradually create the conditions for reopening.

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