



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

January 31, 2025

Case No. FL-2022-00076

Dr. Sainath Suryanarayanan
U.S. Right to Know
4096 Piedmont Ave. #963
Oakland, CA 94611

Dear Dr. Suryanarayanan:

As we noted in our letter dated December 31, 2024, we are processing your request for material under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552. The Department of State ("Department") has identified an additional six responsive records subject to the FOIA. Upon review, we have determined that all six records may be released in part.

An enclosure explains the FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material. Where we have made redactions, the applicable FOIA exemption are marked on each record. Where applicable, the Department has considered the foreseeable harm standard when reviewing these records and applying FOIA exemptions. All non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released and is enclosed.

We will keep you informed as your case progresses. If you have any questions, your attorney may contact Savith Iyengar, Assistant U.S. Attorney, at savith.iyengar@usdoj.gov. Please refer to the case number, FL-2022-00076, and the civil action number, 22-cv-04359, in all correspondence about this case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeanne Miller".

Jeanne Miller
Acting Director, Litigation & Appeals Office
Information Access Programs

Enclosures: As stated.

The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552)

FOIA Exemptions

- (b)(1) Information specifically authorized by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. Executive Order 13526 includes the following classification categories:
- 1.4(a) Military plans, systems, or operations
 - 1.4(b) Foreign government information
 - 1.4(c) Intelligence activities, sources or methods, or cryptology
 - 1.4(d) Foreign relations or foreign activities of the US, including confidential sources
 - 1.4(e) Scientific, technological, or economic matters relating to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(f) U.S. Government programs for safeguarding nuclear materials or facilities
 - 1.4(g) Vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to US national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(h) Weapons of mass destruction
- (b)(2) Related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency
- (b)(3) Specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 USC 552), for example:
- | | |
|----------------|---|
| ARMSEXP | Arms Export Control Act, 50a USC 2411(c) |
| CIA PERS/ORG | Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 USC 403(g) |
| EXPORT CONTROL | Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 USC App. Sec. 2411(c) |
| FS ACT | Foreign Service Act of 1980, 22 USC 4004 |
| INA | Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC 1202(f), Sec. 222(f) |
| IRAN | Iran Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 99-99, Sec. 505 |
- (b)(4) Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information
- (b)(5) Interagency or intra-agency communications forming part of the deliberative process, attorney-client privilege, or attorney work product
- (b)(6) Personal privacy information
- (b)(7) Law enforcement information whose disclosure would:
- (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings
 - (B) deprive a person of a fair trial
 - (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
 - (D) disclose confidential sources
 - (E) disclose investigation techniques
 - (F) endanger life or physical safety of an individual
- (b)(8) Prepared by or for a government agency regulating or supervising financial institutions
- (b)(9) Geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells

Other Grounds for Withholding

- NR Material not responsive to a FOIA request excised with the agreement of the requester

From: (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>;
To: D/EUR Duty Officer 2 <DDutyOfficer2@state.sgov.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>;
D_Specials <D_Specials@state.sgov.gov>
CC: T_SpecAssts <TSpecAssts@state.sgov.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated DRAFT for Clearance (b)(5)
(b)(5)
Date: Thu, 4 Mar 2021 15:53:02 -0500

(b)(1); (b)(5)

Official - Sensitive~~**SECRET//NOFORN**~~

Classified By: Sung Y. Kim - Acting Assistant Secretary , Office:Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs,

Agency:U.S. Department of State

Declassify On: 3/4/2046

Reasons: (Derived) Classification derived from previous message(s)

From: (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 3:51 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; D/EUR Duty Officer 2
<DDutyOfficer2@state.sgov.gov>; (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; D_Specials
<D_Specials@state.sgov.gov>
Cc: T_SpecAssts <TSpecAssts@state.sgov.gov>; (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated DRAFT for Clearance: (b)(1); (b)(5)

(b)(1); (b)(5)

Official - Sensitive~~**SECRET//NOFORN**~~

Classified By: Sung Y. Kim - Acting Assistant Secretary , Office:Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs,

Agency:U.S. Department of State

Declassify On: 3/4/2046

Reasons: (Derived) Classification derived from previous message(s)

From: [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 3:43 PM
To: D/EUR Duty Officer 2 <DDutyOfficer2@state.sgov.gov>; [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>;
D_Specials <D_Specials@state.sgov.gov>
Cc: T_SpecAssts <TSpecAssts@state.sgov.gov>; [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated DRAFT for Clearance: [REDACTED] (b)(1); (b)(5)

[REDACTED] (b)(1); (b)(5)

Official - Sensitive

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Classified By: Sung Y. Kim - Acting Assistant Secretary , Office:Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs,

Agency:U.S. Department of State

Declassify On: 3/4/2046

Reasons: (Derived) Classification derived from previous message(s)

From: D/EUR Duty Officer 2 <DDutyOfficer2@state.sgov.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 3:36 PM
To: [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>;
D_Specials <D_Specials@state.sgov.gov>
Cc: T_SpecAssts <TSpecAssts@state.sgov.gov>; [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated DRAFT for Clearance [REDACTED] (b)(1); (b)(5)

[REDACTED] (b)(1); (b)(5)

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

Special Assistant (Acting)

Office of the Deputy Secretary of State

DDutyOfficer2@state.sgov.gov

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

Official - Sensitive

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Classified By: Sung Y. Kim - Acting Assistant Secretary , Office:Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs,

Agency:U.S. Department of State

Declassify On: 3/4/2046

Reasons: (Derived) Classification derived from previous message(s)

From: [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 3:29 PM
To: [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; D_Specials <D_Specials@state.sgov.gov>
Cc: T_SpecAssts <TSpecAssts@state.sgov.gov>; [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated DRAFT for Clearance: [REDACTED] (b)(1); (b)(5)

[REDACTED]

(b)(1); (b)(5)

Official - Sensitive

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Classified By: Sung Y. Kim - Acting Assistant Secretary , Office:Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs,
Agency:U.S. Department of State
Declassify On: 3/4/2046
Reasons: (Derived) Classification derived from previous message(s)

From: [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 3:25 PM
To: [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; D_Specials <D_Specials@state.sgov.gov>
Cc: T_SpecAssts <TSpecAssts@state.sgov.gov>; [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated DRAFT for Clearance [REDACTED] (b)(1); (b)(5)

[REDACTED]

(b)(1); (b)(5)

Office of Strategic Stability and Deterrence
Bureau of Arms Control, Verification, and Compliance
U.S. State Department
Tel: [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Email: [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov [REDACTED] (b)(6)✓

Official - Sensitive

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Classified By: Sung Y. Kim - Acting Assistant Secretary , Office:Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs,
Agency:U.S. Department of State
Declassify On: 3/4/2046
Reasons: (Derived) Classification derived from previous message(s)

From: [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 3:10 PM
To: D_Specials <D_Specials@state.sgov.gov>
Cc: [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; T_SpecAssts <TSpecAssts@state.sgov.gov>
Subject: Updated DRAFT for Clearance: [REDACTED] (b)(1); (b)(5)

[REDACTED]

(b)(1); (b)(5)

Thanks,

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

Official - Sensitive

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Classified By: Sung Y. Kim - Acting Assistant Secretary , Office:Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs,
Agency:U.S. Department of State
Declassify On: 3/4/2046
Reasons: Derived Per DSCG.

Sender:	[REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Recipient:	[REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; D/EUR Duty Officer 2 <DDutyOfficer2@state.sgov.gov>; [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; D_Specials <D_Specials@state.sgov.gov>; T_SpecAssts <TSpecAssts@state.sgov.gov>; [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

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Withheld pursuant to exemption

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Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1); (b)(5); (b)(6)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5); (b)(6)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5); (b)(6)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1); (b)(5); (b)(6)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1); (b)(5); (b)(6)

From: (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
To: Park, Christopher J (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>;
Ganzer, Ann K (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
CC: (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>;
Mikulak, Robert P. (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Subject: RE: For urgent review: (b)(1); (b)(5)
Date: Mon, 28 Jun 2021 16:48:31 -0400

(b)(1); (b)(5)

Official - Sensitive

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Classified By: Christopher J. Park - Director, Office:ISN Biological Policy Staff, Agency:U.S. Department of State

Declassify On: 6/28/2046

Reasons: (Derived) Classification derived from previous message(s)

From: Park, Christopher J <(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2021 4:39 PM
To: Ganzer, Ann K (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; Mikulak, Robert P. (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Subject: RE: For urgent review: (b)(1); (b)(5)

(b)(1); (b)(5)

Official - Sensitive

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Classified By: Christopher J. Park - Director, Office:ISN Biological Policy Staff, Agency:U.S. Department of State

Declassify On: 6/28/2046

Reasons: Derived Per DSCG.

From: Ganzer, Ann K (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2021 4:33 PM
To: Park, Christopher J (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>

Cc: [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
[REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov> [REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; Mikulak, Robert P.
[REDACTED] (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Subject: RE: For urgent review: [REDACTED] (b)(1); (b)(5)

(b)(1); (b)(5)

From: Park, Christopher J. (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2021 12:56 PM
To: Ganzer, Ann K. (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; Mikulak, Robert P.
Subject: For urgent review: informal response to S follow-up COVID query
Importance: High

(b)(1); (b)(5)

Official - Sensitive

~~SECRET~~

Classified By: Christopher J. Park - Director, Office:ISN Biological Policy Staff, Agency:U.S. Department of State

Declassify On: 6/28/2046

Reasons: Derived Per DSCG.

From: (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2021 11:19 AM
To: Park, Christopher J <(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov> (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>;
 (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; (b)(6)
 (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov> (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; (b)(6)
 (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov> (b)(6)
 (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Subject: clearance request by COB today; (b)(1); (b)(5)
Importance: High

(b)(1); (b)(5)

(b)(1); (b)(5)

Thanks

(b)(6)

Official - Sensitive~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Classified By: Kin Moy - Senior Bureau Official, Office:EAP, Agency:U.S. Department of State

Declassify On: 6/28/2046

Reasons: Derived Per DSCG.

Sender:	(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Recipient:	Park, Christopher J (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>;
	Ganzer, Ann K (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>;
	(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>;
	(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>;
	Mikulak, Robert P. (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>

From:	(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
To:	Park, Christopher J (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Subject:	FW: Follow up
Date:	Mon, 18 Oct 2021 17:09:57 -0400

Official - ~~SBU~~

UNCLASSIFIED//~~NOFORN~~

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 12:55 PM
To: Park, Christopher J (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Subject: FW: Follow up

Chris – I finally confirmed that the email below as received. It's a different address than the one he originally sent to us – but it's what we should use in the future.

Official - ~~SBU~~

UNCLASSIFIED//~~NOFORN~~

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 12:50 PM
To: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Subject: Follow up

Hi Folks – Following up on our chat Wednesday, please see additional info below and attached:



- Track 2 dialogues





(b)(5)

Thanks

(b)(6)

Official - ~~SBU~~

UNCLASSIFIED//~~NOFORN~~

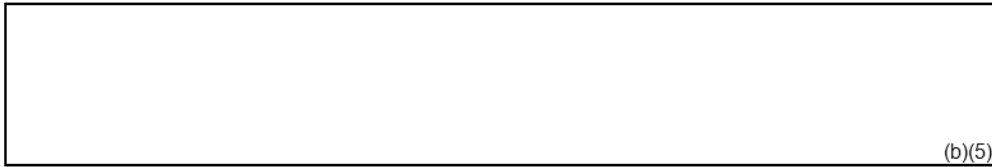
Sender:	(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Recipient:	Park, Christopher J (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>

April 1, 2021

- Official BWC delegation lists can be found on the UN website, in the "List of Participants." For example, the 2018 Meeting of States Parties is here: <https://meetings.unoda.org/section/bwc-msp-2018-documents/>

(b)(5)

April 1, 2021



(b)(5)

From:	"Stilwell, David R" (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
To:	(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; Keshap, Atul (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Subject:	FW: (S//NF) (b)(1)
Date:	Tue, 21 Jan 2020 08:50:55 -0500

From: EAP-Staffers Mailbox

Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 7:50:36 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

To: EAP-Staffers Mailbox; EAP-TopCables-DL

Subject: (S//NF) (b)(1)

(b)(1)

2019-Novel Coronavirus

(SBU) 2019-Novel Coronavirus in Thailand: British patient reported in media does not have Coronavirus; additional two cases to be confirmed (20 BANGKOK 124)

(SBU) China Novel Coronavirus: 139 Newly Reported Cases; First Cases in Beijing, Guangzhou; Third Death; South Korea Confirms Case (20 BEIJING 166)

(SBU) Beijing and Wuhan EAC Regarding the Novel (2019-nCoV) Coronavirus (20 BEIJING 172)

(SBU) China Novel Coronavirus: First Cases in Healthcare Workers Raise Concerns of Human-to-Human Transmission (20 BEIJING 174)

Top Cables, General

(b)(1)

(SBU) Timor-Leste: Ruling coalition dissolves following failed 2020 state budget vote, decision on next steps rests with President Lu-Olo (20 DILI 34)

(b)(1)

Official - ~~SBU~~

This message is **UNCLASSIFIED//~~NOFORN~~** when separated from **~~SECRET~~** attachment(s)
Classified By: David R. Stilwell - Assistant Secretary, Office:EAP, Agency:U.S. Department of State
Declassify On: 1/21/2045
Reasons: Derived Per DSCG.

Sender:	"Stilwell, David R" (b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Recipient:	(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>; Keshap, Atul <(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>

UNCLASSIFIED~~SBU~~

MRN: 20 BEIJING 172
Date/DTG: Jan 21, 2020 / 210951Z JAN 20
From: AMEMBASSY BEIJING
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE *ROUTINE*
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: ASEC, SHLH, CDC, HHS, NIH, CN, PGOV, SENV, PREL, AMGT, CASC
Captions: SENSITIVE
Reference: 20 Beijing 166
Subject: Beijing and Wuhan EAC Regarding the Novel (2019-nCoV) Coronavirus

1. ~~(SBU)~~ Summary: Beijing and Wuhan's EACs met on January 21, 2020, to discuss Reftel and the novel (2019-nCoV) coronavirus in China. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5) Consular stated they released a MASCOT message on January 18th with a link to the CDC website containing the latest guidance on the novel (2019-nCoV) coronavirus. Management stated they will issue an updated Notice to all staff reflecting the most current CDC guidance. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5) End Summary.

2. ~~(SBU)~~ (b)(5)

(b)(5) As of this morning there have been 218 cases in China, of which 198 are persons are from Wuhan and four people have died from the novel (2019-nCoV) coronavirus. Novel (2019-nCoV) coronavirus cases also have been reported in Japan, South Korea and Thailand- all in individuals who had recently travelled from Wuhan. CDC stated that although the Chinese media has reported that there are documented cases of novel (2019-nCoV) coronaviruses being transmitted from human to human contact, based on the currently available data, CDC characterizes the situation as limited human to human transmission and it is unclear how efficiently this virus is spreading. CDC has mobilized their Emergency Operations Center and issued a level 1 travel health watch which recommends that individuals to be aware of the novel (2019-nCoV) coronavirus, avoid contact with animals alive or dead, animal markets, and contact with sick people, use good hygiene practices, but does not recommend avoiding travel to China. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

UNCLASSIFIED

(b)(5)

7. ~~(SBU)~~ Point of contact is RSO (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Signature: BRANSTAD

Drafted By:

RSO: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Cleared By:

MGT: (b)(6)

CONS: (b)(6)

MGT/MED: (b)(6)

PD: (b)(6)

ESTH: (b)(6)

HHS/OGA: (b)(6)

HHS/CDC: (b)(6)

EXEC/LEG: (b)(6)

RSO: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

RSO: Clark, (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Approved By:

A/DCM: Klein, William H (Beijing)

Released By:

BEIJING (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Info:

SHANGHAI, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; SHENYANG, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; GUANGZHOU, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; CHENGDU, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; TOKYO, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; BANGKOK, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; HONG KONG, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; SEOUL, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; CIA WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DIA WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; FBI WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DEPT OF AGRICULTURE USD FAS WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DEPT OF HHS WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY IP WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; ATLANTA GA, CDC ROUTINE; NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; WUHAN, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; TAIPEI, AIT ROUTINE

Dissemination Rule:

Archive Copy

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SBU~~

UNCLASSIFIED~~SBU~~

MRN: 20 BEIJING 174
Date/DTG: Jan 21, 2020 / 211259Z JAN 20
From: AMEMBASSY BEIJING
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE *ROUTINE*
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: SHLH, CDC, HHS, NIH, CN, PGOV, SENV, PREL, CASC, AMGT, AMED, KPAO, KMDR
Captions: SENSITIVE
Reference: A) 20 BEIJING 166
B) 20 BEIJING 172
C) 20 BEIJING 164
D) 20 BEIJING 142
E) 20 BEIJING 122
F) 20 BEIJING 108
G) 20 BEIJING 74
H) 20 BANGKOK 124
I) 20 BANGKOK 116
J) 20 BANGKOK 78
K) 19 WUHAN 112
L) 20 HONG KONG 50
M) 20 HONG KONG 28
Subject: China Novel Coronavirus: First Cases in Healthcare Workers Raise Concerns of Human-to-Human Transmission

1. ~~(SBU)~~ **Summary and Comment:** PRC health authorities January 20 announced human-to-human transmission of the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) and the first infections in health care workers. Officials January 21 also announced additional confirmed cases in Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangdong Province, as well as the first confirmed cases in children. Wuhan health officials announced January 21 that three additional infected patients have died, bringing the total number of deaths to six. China's State Council announced Vice-Health Minister Li Bin will hold a press conference January 22. Taiwan announced its first confirmed case January 21 and Thailand plans to announce two additional confirmed cases January 22. Embassy Beijing delivered a DipNote to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) requesting the PRC to provide all available outbreak information to the World Health Organization (WHO), and for the PRC to support the WHO to make the information available to all member states. Embassy Beijing and CG Wuhan convened a joint Emergency Action Committee (EAC) meeting January 21. Mission China issued an updated Management Notice January 21 and established core coverage responsibilities for the Lunar New Year holiday. Mission China will continue to report on the 2019-nCoV outbreak as it develops and additional information becomes available. **End Summary and Comment.**

China Expert Concludes Human-to-Human Transmission Occurred

2. ~~(SBU)~~ In a January 20 [China CCTV](#) interview with members of the High-level Experts Group of the China National Health Commission advising on the outbreak, Dr. Zhong Nanshan said human-to-human transmission of 2019-nCoV has been confirmed in cases in Guangdong Province (Note: Dr. Zhong is famous in China for being one of the leading medical figures during the 2003 SARS epidemic, when he spoke out against the Chinese government response at the time. CG Wuhan local staff employees note that many Chinese citizens trust Dr. Zhong more than they trust government reports. End note). Dr. Zhong confirmed that health care workers were among those infected. He also said that there is currently no specific antiviral treatment for the infection, but that he did not believe the outbreak is as serious as SARS. A [video of Dr. Zhong's interview](#) was the second-most popular post on Weibo on Monday.

60 New Wuhan Cases; Three Additional Patients Die

3. ~~(SBU)~~ The Wuhan Municipal Health Commission January 21 announced ([link, in Chinese](#)) 60 new confirmed cases had been identified in the city since Post's January 20 cable (ref A). Of the 60 new patients, 33 were male and 27 female, with ages ranged 15 to 88 years old. Among the 60 new cases, 17 patients were severely ill and three critically ill.

4. ~~(SBU)~~ The Wuhan Municipal Health Commission reported one patient who died January 19 had been admitted to the hospital January 18 for severe breathing problems. The 89-year-old male patient had reported underlying conditions, including hypertension, diabetes, and coronary heart disease. Two additional patients died on January 20: a 66-year-old man who had been admitted to the hospital January 16 and had underlying diseases, including hypertension, diabetes, and chronic renal problems; and a 48-year-old woman who had fallen ill December 20, 2019. She had reported underlying conditions, including diabetes, cerebral infarction, and gallstones.

5. ~~(SBU)~~ In total, the Wuhan Municipal Health Commission has to-date reported 258 cases diagnosed with the novel coronavirus. Six patients have died, and 227 patients remain in the hospital, with 12 critically ill, and 51 in serious condition. 25 cases have been discharged from the hospital. The Wuhan Municipal Health Commission also released a list January 21 of designated medical hospitals and outpatient facilities ([link, in Chinese](#)).

6. ~~(SBU)~~ China's State Council announced Vice-Health Minister Li Bin will hold a press conference January 22 on the 2019-nCoV outbreak.

Confirmed Cases Outside Wuhan Increase; First Confirmed Child Cases

7. ~~(SBU)~~ Guangdong Province's Health Commission January 19 announced 14 new confirmed cases identified in the province ([link, in Chinese](#)). The Guangdong Province Foreign Affairs Office also delivered a DipNote to Consulate Guangzhou confirming the 14 cases and providing a list of designated treatment hospitals. Guangdong Province's Health Commission reported it had confirmed a 10-year-old child had been infected, which, along with the 15-year-old patient

in Wuhan, represent the first reported confirmed cases of children with the virus ([link, in Chinese](#)). Three new cases in Beijing (for a total of five), and one in Shanghai (for a total of two) were announced by the respective health commissions. The National Health Commission January 21 announced 291 confirmed cases in four provinces (270 cases in Hubei Province, five cases in Beijing, 14 cases in Guangdong Province, and two cases in Shanghai), along with 54 suspected cases reported in 14 provinces.

8. (SBU) [REDACTED] (b)(5)

[REDACTED] (b)(5)

[REDACTED] (b)(5)

Taiwan CDC January 21 announced a 50-year-old woman who works in Wuhan tested positive for the novel coronavirus in Taiwan ([link](#)).

[REDACTED] (b)(5)

9. (SBU) [REDACTED] (b)(5)

[REDACTED] (b)(5)

Wuhan Residents' Concern Grows; Increased Health Screening, Exit Controls

10. (SBU) CG Wuhan reported the video of Dr. Zhong discussing the human-to-human transmissions had gone viral in the city and caused a much higher level of concern among the population. CG Wuhan personnel observed significantly higher percentages of travelers on the metro wearing masks after the video's release. Universities in Wuhan began January 20 sending out English language guides to students on how to avoid contracting the virus. Prices of n95 masks in the city have risen 500 percent over normal prices since the outbreak began.

11. (SBU) MFA Spokesperson Geng Shuang said January 21 that the, "Wuhan government has taken measures to control the flow of people leaving the city." The Wuhan Municipal Health Commission published an order January 21 announcing that Wuhan city will bar group tours from travelling outside of Wuhan. The Public Security Traffic Management Department will conduct random checks on private vehicles entering and leaving Wuhan to check whether the vehicles are carrying live birds or wild animals.

12. (SBU) [REDACTED] (b)(6)

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

[REDACTED] (b)(6) CG Wuhan direct-hire American staff traveling January 21 on domestic flights noted no visual indication of temperatures checks, though there were signs saying that temperature checks were being done. All check-in staff and security staff wore masks.



Figure 1: Health screening personnel at Wuhan Station



Figure 2: Health screening personnel at Wuhan Station

Xi Jinping Comments and Media/Social Media Coverage

13. (SBU) Over the weekend, Xinhua reported that President Xi Jinping ordered resolute efforts to curb the spread of 2019-nCoV. Xi stressed that people's safety and health is the top priority. He ordered heightened attention and all-out prevention and control efforts to be deployed. China Daily reported that Premier Li Keqiang issued instructions on Monday urging local governments to identify, report, isolate, and treat patients in a timely manner and to promptly and objectively release information about disease prevention and control. Responding to a question about the outbreak on Monday, Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said that China had informed the WHO and organizations in relevant countries and regions about the disease in a timely manner and had been in close communication with them. Medical expert Zeng Guang, speaking after Zhong Nanshan at the widely-covered press conference, reminded the public not to go to work or to travel while ill and not to spread rumors. He noted that it was “not only possible but unavoidable” for the number of cases to rise during the Spring Festival period with so many people traveling.

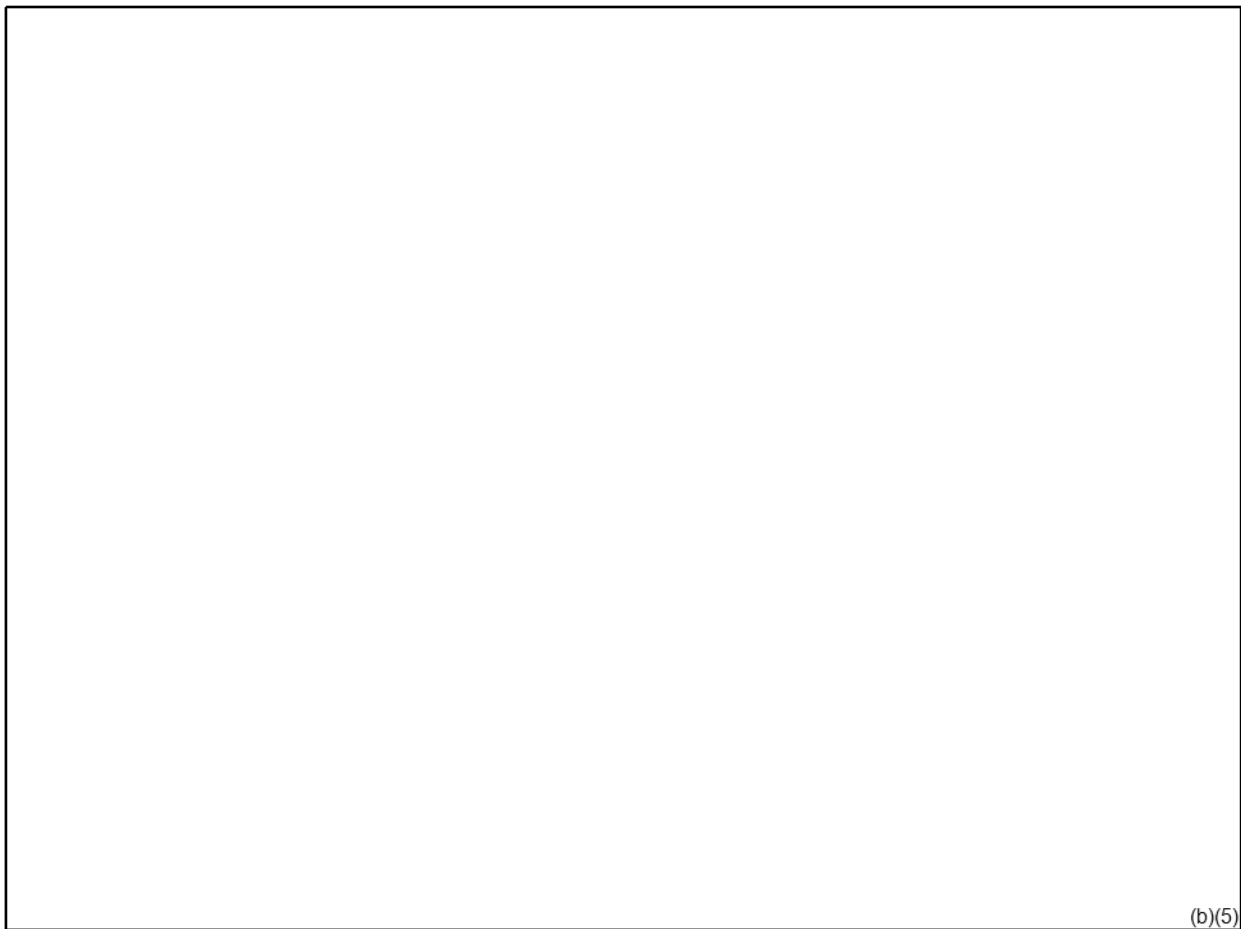
14. (SBU) Additional reporting in Chinese media followed cases that were reported in Guangdong, South Korea, Beijing, and also reported on the fourth deaths (now six) related to the virus. Steps take to prevent the virus from entering Hong Kong were also reported. Media also reported about the eight task forces set up in Wuhan, pledging that the city would promptly and objectively release information about disease prevention and control. Renmin Daily reported that additional suspected cases were reported in Sichuan, Yunnan, Shanghai, Guangxi, and Shandong. In opinion pieces, China Daily voiced some concerns about how the virus had been handled to date and called for full information sharing on the part of health authorities to avoid a repeat of SARS. Global Times promised that the Chinese government will react to this outbreak in a more timely manner than it did with SARS, and advised the Chinese public to look to Chinese media sources—and avoid getting caught up in foreign media sources’ hyperbole. On social media, it appeared that censorship controls placed on topics related to the virus were lifted on Sina Weibo, and three of the top five topics on the Weibo Hot Topics page were related to the Wuhan Coronavirus. In total, the three topics generated 145 million views and 362,000 conversations. Comments on social media conveyed concern about the new coronavirus and appealed to others to practice safe habits and to protect themselves and others.

Mission China Operating Procedures, Awareness Raising, and Preparedness



(b)(5)

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20. ~~(SBU)~~ Mission China will be officially closed January 24-29 for Lunar New Year. Embassy Beijing has established points of responsibility within the Mission to continue coordination of Mission China's response during the holiday.

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

Signature: BRANSTAD

Drafted By:

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Cleared By:

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CONS [redacted]

CONS [redacted] (b)(6)

PD: [redacted] (b)(6)

UNCLASSIFIED

Approved By:
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ESTH: (b)(6)
MGT/MED: (b)(6)
RSC: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
HHS/OGA: (b)(6)
POL: (b)(6)
INFO: (b)(6)
INFO: (b)(6)
POL: (b)(6)
BEIJING: (b)(6)

XMT:

VLADIVOSTOK, AMCONSUL *ROUTINE*; TOKYO, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*;
BANGKOK, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; SEOUL, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*;
HANOI, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; MANILA, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*;
HONG KONG, AMCONSUL *ROUTINE*; NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON DC *ROUTINE*; CIA WASHINGTON DC *ROUTINE*; PACOM
IDHS HONOLULU HI *ROUTINE*; ATLANTA GA, CDC *ROUTINE*; TAIPEI,
AIT *ROUTINE*; CHINA POSTS COLLECTIVE *ROUTINE*; ENVIRONMENT
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COLLECTIVE *ROUTINE*
CARACAS, AMEMBASSY; ST PETERSBURG, AMCONSUL

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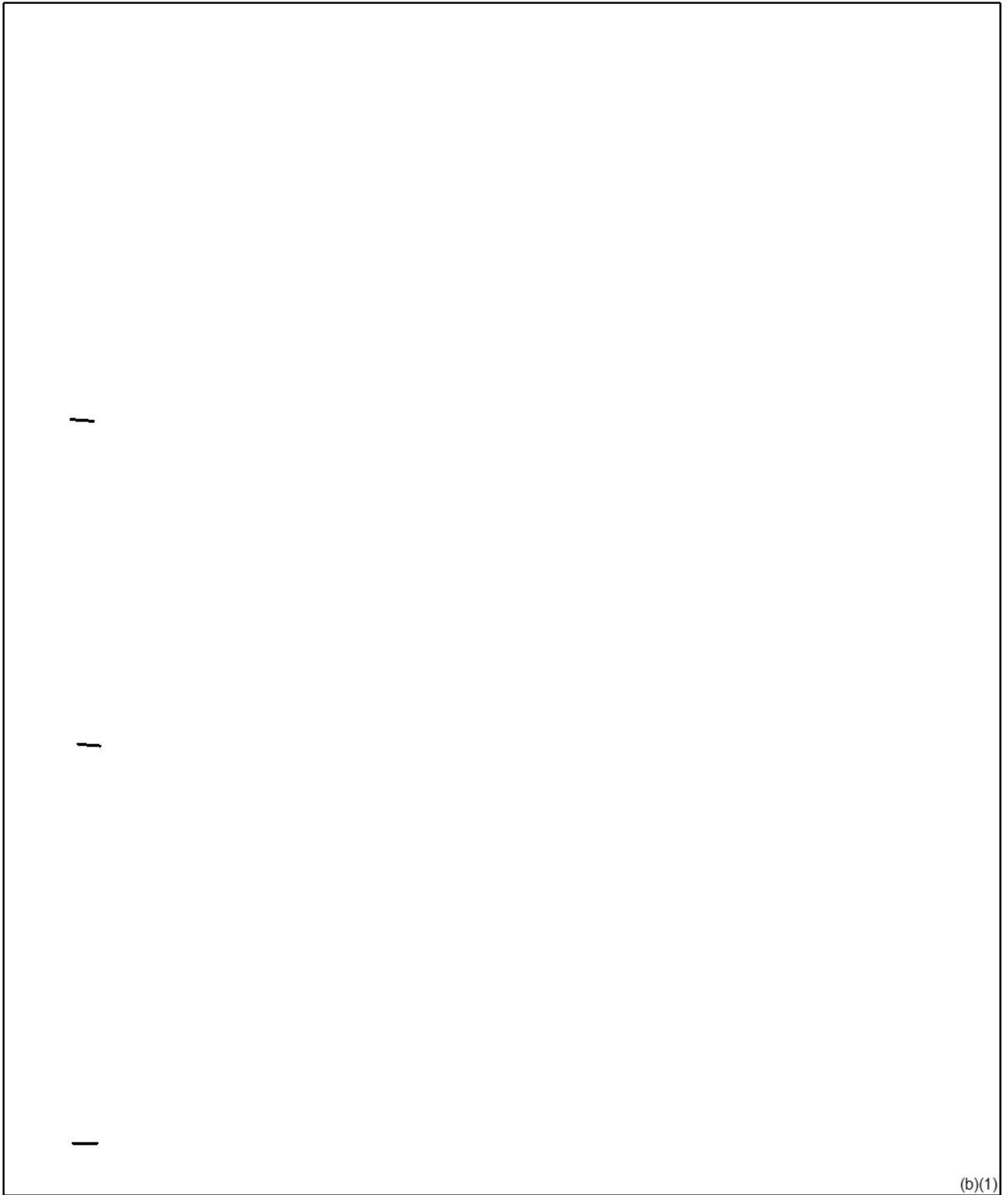


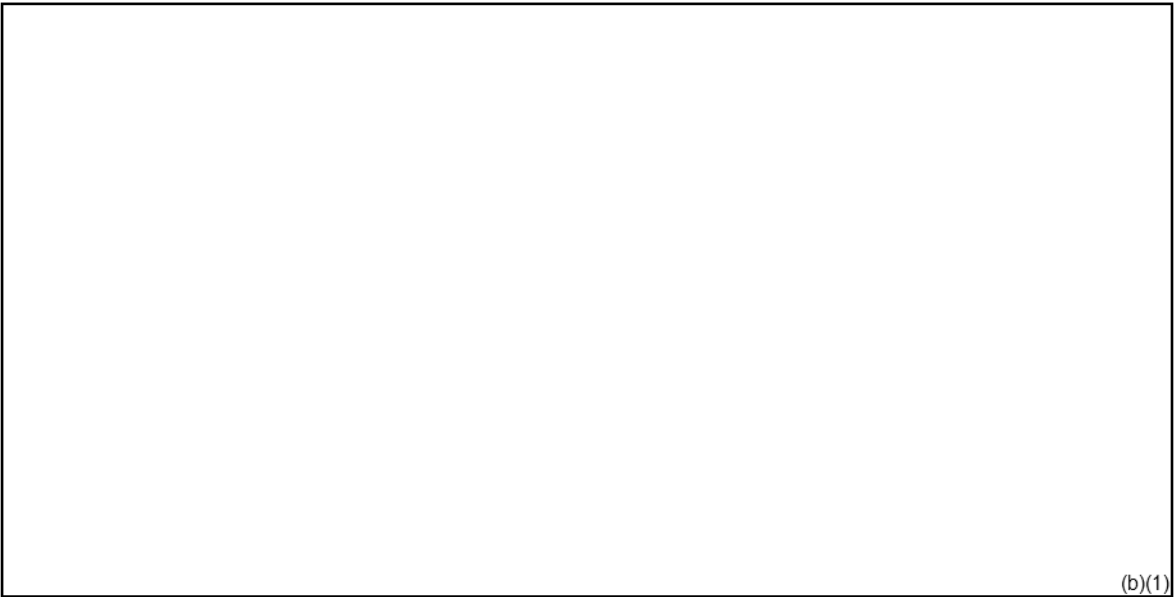
MRN: 20 TOKYO 31
Date/DTG: Jan 21, 2020 / 210621Z JAN 20
From: AMEMBASSY TOKYO
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE *ROUTINE*
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PINS, MARR, MOPS, ECON, EAID, LK, IN, PK, JP
Captions: SENSITIVE
Reference: 19 TOKYO 667
Subject:

(b)(1)

Summary

(b)(1)





Signature: YOUNG

Classified By: Name: (b)(6) Title: Deputy Political Minister Counselor
Derived From: DSCG 17-1
Declassify On: 2045/01/21
Drafted By: TOKYO (b)(6)
Approved By: POL (b)(6)
Released By: TOKYO: (b)(6)

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CC:	(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>;
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	(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>;
	(b)(6)@state.sgov.gov>
Subject:	China Coronavirus: Mission China Prepares for Authorized Departure, Holds Town Hall
Date:	Thu, 30 Jan 2020 04:52:11 -0500

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SBU



Info Office: DemHumRightsGov, s_p_arms, s_p_main, PolMil

MRN: 20 BEIJING 226
Date/DTG: Jan 30, 2020 / 300943Z JAN 20
From: AMEMBASSY BEIJING
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE *ROUTINE*
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: SHLH, CDC, HHS, NIH, CN, PGOV, SENV, PREL, CASC, AMGT, AMED, KPAO, KMDR, ASEC
Captions: SENSITIVE
Reference: A) 20 BEIJING 218
B) 20 BEIJING 216
C) 20 BEIJING 214
D) 20 BEIJING 202
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F) 20 BEIJING 198
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H) 20 BEIJING 186
I) 20 BEIJING 174
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K) 20 BEIJING 166
L) 20 BEIJING 164
M) 20 BEIJING 142
N) 20 BEIJING 122
O) 20 BEIJING 108
P) 20 BEIJING 74

Q) 19 WUHAN 112

Subject:

China Coronavirus: Mission China Prepares for Authorized Departure, Holds Town Hall

1. ~~(SBU)~~ **Summary:** Mission China held a Town Hall January 30 led by Ambassador Branstad to discuss authorized departure and posture in response to the novel coronavirus. The PRC coronavirus response group led by Premier Li Keqiang called for the delayed return to work of some Chinese government personnel. Mission China is scheduled to reopen February 3 to focus fully on the response to the outbreak of the novel coronavirus. The Mission China Task Force will continue to meet daily and report on the 2019-nCoV outbreak. **End Summary.**

Mission China Town Hall

2. ~~(SBU)~~ Embassy Beijing held a Town Hall January 30 led by Ambassador Branstad to discuss Mission China's authorized departure of family members and all non-emergency U.S. government employees, along with Mission posture in response to the coronavirus outbreak. Staff and family member from the Consulates also participated.

Assistance to AmCits and Relief Coordination for Wuhan

3. ~~(SBU)~~ Embassy Beijing continues to coordinate with the Department on assistance to and the possible evacuation of U.S. citizens who remain in Wuhan. The Mission China Wuhan Relief Group is coordinating with the Department to place relief supplies and donations aboard any aircraft that may travel to Wuhan to evacuate U.S. citizens.

Central Government Leaders Call for Delayed Return of Some Government Personnel

4. ~~(SBU)~~ The PRC's Central Leading Group for the 2019-nCoV Response convened a meeting on January 29, chaired by Premier Li Keqiang. The group noted that "the epidemic is still in the phase of spreading" and called on public agencies and entities to allow non-critical personnel traveling from areas with "high rates of infection" to delay their return to work. With the permission of the State Council, Hubei Province and other highly affected areas may delay the reopening of public offices, businesses, and schools, "as appropriate."

Triage Procedures at Beijing Hospitals Observed; No Reported Stresses on Healthcare Systems

5. ~~(SBU)~~ [REDACTED] (b)(5)
[REDACTED] (b)(5)
[REDACTED] (b)(5) On January 30, Embassy Beijing ESTHoff and a CDC Officer visited Ditan Hospital and two other hospitals with locally designated fever clinics: Beijing United Family Hospital (BJU) and Huaxin Hospital. BJU is frequented by Embassy personnel.

6. ~~(SBU)~~ At the hospitals, the CDC Officer conducted a rapid on-the-spot assessment of: (1) procedures for funneling individuals entering the hospital to one entry point where a triage nurse was set up; (2) screening and triaging patients at the entry point, including through temperature checks, symptom screen, and basic risk assessment (e.g., asking about recent travel history); (3)

use of personal protective equipment (PPE) by healthcare workers (HCW) and training on PPE; (4) procedures for isolating individuals with a fever from the general hospital population and directing those with fever to the fever clinic; (5) presence of functioning negative-pressure isolation rooms on site; (6) lab testing capacity for 2019-nCoV on site in the fever clinics; and (7) existing protocols for HCW who may have been exposed. The expert assessed that all three hospitals had adequate capacity and procedures in place, to varying degrees. Among the three, BJU was superior in their triage procedures.

7. ~~(SBU)~~ At BJU, ESTH was told that BJU's fever clinic had reopened at 11:00 AM on January 30. The CDC Officer observed that the triage nurse was wearing a face shield, mask, gloves, and a gown. The assigned security personnel escorting patients to the fever clinic were wearing masks and face shields. Adult patients with temperatures above 37.3°C (99.1°F) are escorted to the fever clinic; children are escorted to a pediatric fever clinic, and all accompanying family members are immediately masked (if not already) and screened by staff. A BJU triage nurse said that BJU can test for 2019-nCoV in-house, and that the fever clinic has fully functioning negative-pressure isolation rooms. Patients who test positive for the virus are sent to one of the city's designated treatment hospitals. The triage nurse further indicated that BJU has established protocols for HCW who are exposed and has conducted training with all staff on the proper use of PPE.

8. ~~(SBU)~~ At Ditan hospital, ESTHOff spoke with a hospital administrator and asked about the MFA notice directing diplomatic personnel in Beijing with fevers to its facility. The administrator said she was not aware of the MFA notice and told ESTHOff the hospital did not have any special procedures or services for the intake of diplomatic personnel. The administrator suggested that Embassy staff and family just go to the nearest locally designated fever clinic or treatment hospital. [Note: Beijing city government has a published list of 101 fever clinics and 21 designated treatment hospitals in the city. End note.]

9. ~~(SBU)~~ CGs Shanghai and Guangzhou report no visible signs of stress to the local healthcare system. In Shanghai, private hospitals that serve international clients, including the official American community, appear to be operating as normal. In Guangzhou, there have been no reported changes to hospital conditions or wait times since the ConGenOffs' January 28 survey of facilities.

10. ~~(SBU)~~ According to contacts, as of today, Sichuan province has dedicated more than 2,273 beds in hospitals across the region, in addition to 30 backup hospitals, to treat patients infected with the virus. Sichuan currently has 54 quarantine sites, with an additional 249 backup sites. As of yesterday, 2,011 fever clinics at hospitals across Sichuan have screened over 75,000 patients for the virus.

11. ~~(SBU)~~ To ease the pressure on major hospitals in Chengdu, the provincial health commission has installed a new community-based early screening and referral system. Individuals with fever and other possible symptoms are urged to first contact their community health center for primary screenings. Symptomatic patients are then referred to fever clinics or placed under house quarantine for further monitoring. There are 197 hospitals with fever clinics in Chengdu, which are mandated to transfer confirmed cases to 17 designated treatment

hospitals. Major hospitals in the city center, including Huaxi Hospital -- Sichuan's main provincial hospital and the primary hospital for CG Chengdu's community -- have not been designated as nCoV treatment hospitals. However, as noted in prior CG Chengdu reporting, Huaxi and other Chengdu hospitals have setup diagnostic and fever tents.

International Schools

12. (SBU) The PRC Ministry of Education January 27 suspended all classes at schools until further instructions from local authorities. International schools in Beijing said January 29 the Beijing Municipal Education Commission (BMEC) announced that the reopening of schools shall now be determined by BMEC. The Western Academy of Beijing (WAB), International School of Beijing (ISB), and the British School of Beijing (BSB) said they will implement online learning starting February 3. American International School of Guangzhou (AISG), where all ConGen children study, still plans to re-open February 17 and sent instructions for on-line classes beginning February 3. Shanghai international schools attended by Consulate EFMs continue to plan on reopening February 17.

Beijing

13. (SBU) In Beijing, there are no reports of road closures or traffic restrictions from Beijing's transport authority and city police. Public buses and subway lines within the city continue to operate as normal. Grocery stores appear well-stocked. The DiDi ride-hailing app (similar to Uber) was functioning again on January 30. [Note: Didi announced January 29 that it was suspending most services by private drivers in Beijing "in response to local authorities' requirement." There was no announced reason why the service had resumed. End note.]

14. (SBU) China's Ministry of Transport (MOT) issued a notice on January 30 forbidding local transport authorities from closing highways or inter-province roadways in response to 2019-nCoV ([link](#)). MOT also published a notice on January 30 that vehicles carrying emergency supplies should receive free passage across provinces and would be exempt from any tolls or fees ([link](#)).

15. (SBU) The [REDACTED] (b)(6) where many TDY and official visitors to Beijing stay, told an Embassy CDC officer January 29 that their procedure following any guests identified with a fever is to call the police/ambulance to take the guest to a hospital. [REDACTED] (b)(6) staff said they would ensure the guest had a mask on and was set aside until the police arrived.

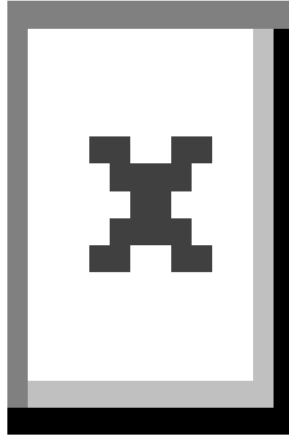


Figure: (b)(6) *staff conducting temperature checks of hotel guests*

Chengdu

16. (SBU) As of January 30, Sichuan province reported 142 cases of individuals infected with the nCoV virus. On January 30 Chengdu reported its first death, an 86-year-old woman with a history of prior illness. In Western Sichuan's remote Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, local authorities announced that two individuals were confirmed as having the virus, bringing the total number of cases in Ganzi to five. Another 29 individuals in Ganzi suspected of suffering from the virus remain under quarantine. One contact speculated that these individuals may have been tourists from Wuhan who had chosen to spend their New Year sightseeing in the area. Tibetan contacts speculated that the number of individuals infected with the virus in Western Sichuan might be higher, with one Tibetan telling us he was forced to depart Chengdu in a hurry to take care of his parents after "several" individuals in their village fell ill.

17. (SBU) As of January 30, China's ride sharing application, DiDi, pushed a message to its English-speaking users, indicating the company would no longer provide "inter-city services" between Chengdu and other cities. Post confirmed all travel within Chengdu and to the local international airport remains available.

18. (SBU) United Airlines, Hainan Airlines, and other international airlines continue to operate flights out of Chengdu. Consulate employees transiting Chengdu's Shuangliu International Airport have reported inconsistent levels of arrival and departure health checks. Upon departure

or arrival, all travelers are required to undergo a "health check" which entails filling out a form indicating recent travel and any potential symptoms.

19. (SBU) Controls on movement within Chengdu extend to the lowest levels of governance, contacts say. One contact reports local police in residential areas of Chengdu checking the home registration (户口) for all individuals entering a given neighborhood, saying that authorities have been turning away anyone whose registration shows that they do not reside in that neighborhood, even if they are registered elsewhere in Chengdu. In rural areas of the province, contacts report authorities are searching all vehicles to ascertain if any passengers have recently arrived from Wuhan, while in city areas, police are stopping all cars with license plates from Hubei, of which Wuhan is the provincial capital. According to contacts, Sichuan has designated hotels to quarantine individuals with recent travel to Hubei, while some private hotels are refusing to admit any person with registration there.

20. (SBU) Despite February 17 being the official start date for schools, some universities have begun to hedge on when students and faculty should return, with the Southwest Minorities University in Chengdu publishing a notice that "all individuals should wait until further instructions at a later date before planning their return."

21. (SBU) Likeminded diplomatic colleagues based in Chongqing believe the next 5-8 days will be crucial for the municipality to contain the virus. On January 28, the first confirmed coronavirus case was reported in the municipality's Yuzhong district, where many of the foreign consulates are located. This appears to have triggered a more stringent set of public health measures, with mandatory temperature checks observed at residential compounds, gas stations, malls, and car routes. Contacts noted there remains a lot of concern, locally that Chongqing could become another epicentre for coronavirus infection based on the significant flow of people between Chongqing and Wuhan. On January 28, the Deputy Director of Chongqing's Center for Disease Control and Prevention was quoted as saying that some 210,000 people had 'recently' travelled from Wuhan to Chongqing prior to movement controls being implemented in Hubei Province. This has triggered a widespread grid search campaign by authorities to identify people in Chongqing coming from Wuhan and those with whom they have been in contact.

22. (SBU) According to diplomatic contacts, Chongqing has ordered non-essential businesses to stay closed until February 9th. Schools are to remain closed until February 17. As of January 28, Chongqing's one international hospital, Raffles Medical, still offers fever screening and blood test and directs patients to a designated public hospital if they test positive for the virus. English service at Raffles Hospital is reportedly inconsistent, and our diplomatic contacts said they have been unable to assess the availability/quality of foreign language services at the two hospitals designated for foreigners suspected of coronavirus infection.

23. (SBU) On January 28, Chongqing municipal government held a press conference, stating it had implemented containment measures, including setting up checkpoints at airports, train stations, highway exits, and piers to identify vehicles and passengers coming from Hubei Province. Starting on the morning of January 26, Chongqing's municipal metro system began operating on a reduced schedule. Chongqing has also stopped all interprovincial bus services.

Our contacts reported no indication that flights and trains have or would be disrupted. In addition, Chongqing FAO has suspended all activities with foreign countries until the end of February and has requested the city's consulates general do the same.

24. (SBU) Contacts also reported that masks remain difficult to procure locally. Chongqing FAO has circulated an updated list of supplies that the government needs for its response, which mainly consist of personal protective equipment. Authorities are asking foreign company contacts that are cleared to sell these supplies in China to increase their imports of such products. Chongqing is also willing to accept donations from private organizations and sub-national governments.

Guangzhou

25. (SBU) USDH and EFMs participated in Mission China's townhall January 30, followed by a ConGen Guangzhou Q&A session on authorized departure. CG Guangzhou will conduct an EAC January 30.

26. (SBU) [REDACTED] (b)(5)

[REDACTED] (b)(5)

27. (SBU) [REDACTED] (b)(5)

[REDACTED] (b)(5)

28. (SBU) As of January 30, all regularly scheduled flights to the United States from Guangzhou and Shenzhen are operating normally. According to the FAO, the main carrier out of Guangzhou, China Southern (code share Delta, AA), has not cancelled any international routes.

29. (SBU) In Guangdong, provincial and municipal governments resumed normal operations as of January 30. Banks are scheduled to re-open February 3.

30. (SBU) [REDACTED] (b)(5)

[REDACTED] (b)(5)

(b)(5)

31. (SBU) As of January 30, grocery stores surveyed by Consulate Guangzhou staff were well stocked and appeared to be increasing the availability of meat and produce. Water deliveries to Consulate personnel remain available through the Consulate's supplier, though delivery times were constrained through the extended holiday.

32. (SBU) Guangzhou public transportation remains open. ConGenOffs observed metro and bus ridership seemed to be up compared to previous days. Checkpoints have been stood-up at key freeway junctures to screen all inter-provincial inbound car traffic.

33. (SBU) High speed rail link suspension for mainland trains to Hong Kong went into effect at 12:00 AM January 30. ConGenOff observed at one Guangzhou train station that as many as one-third of overall rail frequencies in an out of the city are cancelled the evening of January 29, while no cancellations were evident at a second station.

34. (SBU) Foot traffic is light at inter-city bus terminals and plenty of tickets available to most mid-range destinations, according to ConGenOff observations. Staff confirmed bus service to Hong Kong Airport was suspended.

Shanghai

35. (SBU) CG Shanghai reported January 30 Shanghai has not yet seen signs of significant disruption to local transportation, food distribution, or medical services. The Shanghai consular district accounts for about 11 percent of total confirmed cases, with approximately half of those in Zhejiang Province. Confirmed cases in Shanghai – currently around 100 - remain low both in absolute terms and relative to the size of the population. Members of the Consulate community continue to find grocery stores accessible and well stocked, though supplies of some products – especially fresh vegetables and pork – are in short supply in some stores some of time. The Shanghai municipal government has acknowledged that demand for these items is higher than normal, attributing the increase in demand to decreased travel outside of the city and more residents cooking at home rather than eating out. While many restaurants remain closed, meal and grocery delivery services are operating as normal.

36. (SBU) The Shanghai subway network and the Didi ride hailing service continue to operate as normal. The ride-hailing app Didi is requiring all passengers and drivers to wear protective masks. The airport and high-speed rail service continue to operate, although a number of airlines have reduced or discontinued service to Shanghai from overseas. Some of these airlines have explicitly cited public health reasons as the main factor in their decision while others have pointed to reduced demand as the main driver.

37. (SBU) Calls into CG Shanghai ACS regarding the crisis have risen steeply in the last 24 hours. The Consulate's public mailbox had over 300 inquiries with questions about evacuations and guidance on the coronavirus. More than 700 U.S. citizens have enrolled in the STEP program since Friday.

38. (SBU)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

39. (SBU) Health inspection sites on highways between Shanghai and other cities remain in place. A Consulate EFM January 29 observed four health inspection sites on the highway between Shanghai and Kunshan. Despite light traffic on the highway, long queues were present at inspection sites, where temperatures of all drivers and passengers were being checked.

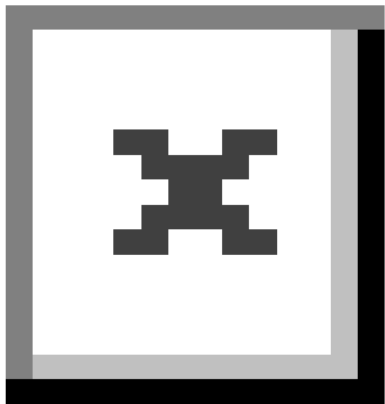


Figure: Health inspection site on highway between Shanghai and Kunshan.

Shenyang

40. (SBU) CG Shenyang reported January 30 that the situation remains stable with increased monitoring measures. Shenyang city is quiet with most residents heeding the government's call to stay home. Public transportation is operating, albeit on a reduced schedule. Taxis are available. There have been no significant changes to transportation within Shenyang since our last update. Transportation service between cities has been reduced. As reported in previous updates, intercity bus service was suspended in Liaoning province and some high-speed trains will skip Shenyang. While transportation is available, individual districts within the city have begun announcing measures to isolate neighborhoods and track residents down to the city block level. For example, Tiexi district, a district within Shenyang city, announced "isolation management" measures on January 29 that require people entering Tiexi district to have their temperatures checked. Only residents in Tiexi can enter and leave freely while visitors will

need to register so that the local officials can maintain accountability of them. While Tiexi was the first district to announce these "isolation measures" publicly, consulate staff report that these procedures are being expanded to cover all districts in Shenyang. [REDACTED] (b)(5); (b)(6) reported residents of his neighborhood who traveled out of town for the Lunar New Year holiday were contacted and told they could not return home once the neighborhood went into "isolation management." Within NE China, Chinese media have reported that some cities have enacted stringent measures to prevent cases of coronavirus from entering the city limits. For example, Yanji city, near the North Korean border, has reported no cases of coronavirus. The city has suspended all public transportation within the city as well long-distance transportation. Hotels in Yanji cannot accept outsiders.

41. (SBU) Shenyang Airport is operating normally with temperature check stations for passengers in vehicles leaving and arriving at the airport. China Southern's direct flight from Shenyang to Los Angeles operates three times a week and remains in operation, according to contacts at the Shenyang Airport. Data shared by CG Shenyang contacts show that outbound flights to Los Angeles are at almost full capacity. Tuesday's flight from Shenyang to Los Angeles had 20 empty seats and Thursday's flight has 10 empty seats out of a maximum capacity of 286 seats. In comparison, contacts noted that the inbound flight from Los Angeles to Shenyang has fewer passengers but is still within an acceptable range. Thursday's flight from Los Angeles to Shenyang had 170 passengers out of 286 seats. Contacts noted that both inbound and outbound flights are normally at full capacity during the Lunar New Year because of students studying in the United States. The China Southern flight is NE China's only direct international flight to the United States.

42. (SBU) Consulate Shenyang held an EAC meeting and joined the Ambassador's town hall meeting for AMCIT employees and family members on January 30. Shenyang will also hold an LE staff town hall meeting on the first workday after the extended holiday on February 3. Over the last 24 hours, the total number of patients with confirmed coronavirus in NE China increased by 16. Chinese media reported that two patients in Jilin and Liaoning province has recovered from the coronavirus and were released. These are the first reported cases of patients being fully cured and released from quarantine in NE China.

Media/Social Media

43. (U) People's Daily continued to publish new stories about how China will "definitely win the battle against the epidemic." People's Daily cited statements by international personages in support of China's efforts against the epidemic, including the tweet by U.S. President Trump which appreciated China for its efforts in preventing and controlling pneumonia caused by the new coronavirus. As well as Alex Azar, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services appreciated China's prior disclosure of gene sequence information of new coronavirus, and emphasized that this is helpful for the development of virus diagnosis methods. Xinhua and widely amplified by all media including CCTV prime time is an order from Xi Jinping to the Chinese military to "keep its mission firmly in mind and shoulder responsibility to make contributions to winning the battle against the novel coronavirus epidemic." The military resolutely implemented the decisions and arrangements of the CPC Central Committee after the novel coronavirus outbreak in Wuhan of Hubei Province, Xi said, adding that the armed forces

rapidly initiated the joint prevention and control mechanism and sent elite medical teams to combat the epidemic at the frontline. Xi said the epidemic prevention and control “remained grim and complex and demanded the armed forces shoulder their responsibility, fight the hard battle and actively assist local authorities in fighting the epidemic.” [Xinhua](#) and CCTV also featured Li Keqiang and officials emphasizing the treatment of patients and the supply of medical resources. The piece said that prevention and control efforts are in full swing and have been intensified, but the epidemic keeps spreading, with a rapid rising trend in some regions. The meeting also stressed efforts of epidemic prevention and control amid the return trips of people after the Lunar New Year holiday, adding that proper postponement of return should be allowed. Delays in business operation and school opening should be applied. [Chinese outlets](#) also report over 7,700 confirmed cases of coronavirus in China, 170 deaths, and 128 recovered patients. [Xinhua](#) amplified a health official in Beijing that “early reporting, isolation, diagnosis is the best way to contain coronavirus.” [Xinhua](#) and other outlets also covered work by the Wuhan Institute of Virology to screen new coronavirus drugs that can inhibit coronavirus. Another article in [Global Times](#) praised Wuhan residents for “whistle-blowing” on virus outbreak. A top epidemiologist at the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CCDC) on Wednesday commended eight residents, who were detained in early January for spreading “rumors” about the outbreak of the novel coronavirus. Zeng Guang, Chief epidemiologist at the CCDC, said those eight residents should be highly regarded as they turned out to be correct about the viral outbreak, even though the information they spread “lacked scientific evidence.” Zeng’s comment followed an article from the Supreme People’s Court of China (SPC) on Tuesday, in which the top court said that the eight Wuhan residents should be “tolerated” and their act of spreading the information, if taken seriously, would have done much good to the public. [China Daily](#) reports on efforts to guarantee key supply items and featured promises by various businesses including Wumart and Alibaba.

44. (U) In commentary [Xinhua](#) said China’s virus battle unites people and protects the world. [Xinhua](#) said, accusations that the massive city lockdown in Wuhan is a violation of human rights emerged, but the citizens of Wuhan disagree. Since the lockdown was put in place, they have been staying indoors and practicing quarantine measures with the utmost respect for the government’s guidance and their hallmark perseverance and optimism. They have a sober understanding that while inconveniences may emerge, the historic quarantine serves their health, safety and overall interests. Social cohesion binds the people of Wuhan at this critical moment. [Xinhua](#) concludes, time will prove that China has made wise decisions and will emerge even stronger after coming through the epidemic. [Messages](#) to CPC members continued to “stand up in time of crisis--resolutely winning the battle of prevention and control of epidemic.” [Global Times](#) comments that Provincial Governor Wang Xiaodong himself made a mistake in that press conference about the annual production capacity of masks in Hubei Province, which attracted fierce criticism from the public. But after that, the leading cadres in Hubei province did not shrink back, and Wang Xiaodong attended the press conference for the second time to communicate with the media and the public. At last night’s press conference, Governor Wang Xiaodong first expressed “understanding and appreciation” for the public’s supervision and criticism of the work of Hubei Province since the outbreak. He praised and bowed to medical staffs as a tribute at the press conference. Many people who watched last night’s press conference felt that the governor’s behavior was very sincere, says [Global Times](#).

45. (U) Social media continued to track and monitor the virus. One of the most popular related topics is the first case confirmed in Tibet. The top story on Weibo is a 100 second [video](#) that went viral with Zhang Wenhong, the infectious disease expert tasked with managing Shanghai's response to the novel coronavirus. In the video, Mr. Zhang said he asked all CCP members of his hospital, to replace those who already has been combating the coronavirus for a long time. "You cannot bully obedient people" said Mr. Zhang. Other popular topics include the live streaming of the construction of the two field hospitals in Wuhan - every vehicle and machine has been nicknamed by netizens. Top three hashtags have received 76 million views: 1. Hubei governor responded to criticism of netizens; 2. The epidemic is still in spreading process; 3. Pets need to be isolated if they touch virus. Other popular posts showed factory production of masks and protective gear, profiles of doctors and medical providers working to protect others, and other stories on numbers of cases.

All 31 Provincial-Level Territories at Highest Level of Alert

46. (SBU) The Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) decided to raise its public health alert to Level 1 on January 29, the highest level. All 31 provincial-level territories have now declared Level-1 emergencies (*People's Daily*).

Nationwide Cases: All 31 Provincial-Level Territories with Confirmed Cases

47. (SBU) China's National Health Commission (NHC) reported 1,737 newly confirmed cases on January 29 as of 24:00, as total confirmed cases rose to 7,711, including 1,370 cases in serious or critical condition ([link](#)). Among the new cases is the first confirmed case in the TAR. NHC further reported 38 new deaths on January 29, including 37 in Hubei and one in Sichuan. The number of patients treated and released rose to 124. A total of 12,167 cases are currently suspected, with 81,947 close contacts in isolation under medical observation.

Table: Confirmed Cases in Mainland China as of January 29

Province/City/Region	Total confirmed cases to date	New confirmed cases	Total deaths to date	New deaths reported
Anhui	200	48	--	--
Beijing	111	20	1	--
Chongqing	165	18	--	--
Fujian	101	17	--	--
Gansu	26	2	--	--
Guangdong	311	70	--	--
Guangxi	78	20	--	--
Guizhou	12	3	--	--
Hainan	46	3	1	--
Hebei	65	17	1	--

Heilongjiang	43	6	1	--
Henan	278	72	2	--
Hubei	4,586	1,032	162	37
Hunan	277	56	--	--
Inner Mongolia	18	2	--	--
Jiangsu	129	30	--	--
Jiangxi	162	53	--	--
Jilin	14	5	--	--
Liaoning	39	1	--	--
Ningxia	17	5	--	--
Qinghai	6	--	--	--
Shaanxi	56	10	--	--
Shandong	145	24	--	--
Shanghai	101	21	1	--
Shanxi	35	8	--	--
Sichuan	142	34	1	1
Tianjin	27	3	--	--
Tibet	1	1	--	--
Xinjiang	14	1	--	--
Yunnan	70	19	--	--
Zhejiang	428	132	--	--
TOTAL (NHC Reported)	7,711	1,737	170	38
TOTAL (From Provinces)	7,703	1,733	170	38

-- zero cases. Source: NHC,

provincial health commissions, and state media.

Table: Confirmed Cases in Other Countries and Regions as of Mid-Day January 30

Country/Region	Total Cases	New Confirmed Cases
Thailand	14	--
Hong Kong	10	2
Singapore	10	5
Japan	10	3
Taiwan	8	--
Macau	7	--
Australia	7	2

Malaysia	7	4
United States	5	--
France	5	1
South Korea	4	--
Germany	4	--
Canada	3	2
Vietnam	2	--
Nepal	1	--
Cambodia	1	--
Sri Lanka	1	--
United Arab Emirates	1	1
Finland	1	1
Total	101	21

Notes: As of 10:30 AM on January 30. Source: Ding Xiang Yuan, <http://www.dxy.cn/>

More Confirmed Cases of Third-Country Nationals in China, But No Amcits

48. (SBU) Guangdong authorities confirmed January 29 in a press conference that one Pakistani and two Australians had contracted the virus, the first cases involving foreigners in the province. According CG Guangzhou contacts, the Australians were students in Wuhan and have recovered. Health authorities reiterated to the Guangzhou consular corps January 30 there have been no fatalities in Guangdong and the preponderance of cases had a direct tie to Hubei, or a very close contact with someone with Hubei travel. No cases of Amcits currently in China have been confirmed and reported by PRC authorities.

Evacuation of Third-Country Nationals

49. (SBU) Nine of the 210 Japanese citizens evacuated from Wuhan to Tokyo on a second chartered aircraft on January 30 are reportedly symptomatic, with cough or fever. Two other Japanese passengers with fever or cough had been stopped from boarding at a pre-flight health screening in Wuhan (CCTV). Earlier, three of the 206 Japanese citizens that were evacuated from Wuhan to Tokyo on January 29 on the first chartered aircraft were diagnosed with 2019-nCoV (CCTV). Five of the passengers on the January 29 flight reportedly had fevers before they arrived in Tokyo.

Public Spending on 2019-nCoV Response

50. (SBU) China's national and local governments have reportedly spent RMB 27.3 billion (US\$ 3.9 billion) in public funds on the 2019-nCoV response as of 1700 on January 29 (CCTV). The Organization Department of the Communist Party announced on January 30 that it would release RMB 108 billion from CCP member dues to assist local governments (*The Paper*).

Mask Shortages – Daily Production in China Currently at 40-Percent Capacity

51. (SBU) Officials from China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) have estimated the country's maximum daily production capacity for masks at around 20 million per day, about half the global total ([link](#)). According to the officials, current production is at around 8 million masks per day due to the holiday. MIIT has called on enterprises to increase shifts and resume their normal production levels, though officials noted difficulties faced by producers. As one official said, "Most workers have returned home, supplies of raw materials have stopped, and logistics are at a halt." Officials also noted disruptions in inter-province rail service and trucking routes as a factor. Guangdong authorities told the consular corps January 30 that 27 of the 29 manufacturers in the province have resumed operation and estimated local shortages should ease within days.

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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ECON: [REDACTED] (b)(6) (Chengdu)
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INFO: HHS/OGA [REDACTED] (b)(6) Beijing

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Released By: BEIJING [REDACTED] (b)(6) (Beijing)

Info: SEOUL, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; TAIPEI, AIT ROUTINE; HANOI, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; SINGAPORE, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; ULAANBAATAR, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; PHNOM PENH, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; BANGKOK, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; HONG KONG, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; MANILA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; PARIS, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; VLADIVOSTOK, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; ATLANTA GA, CDC ROUTINE; DIA WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; CIA WASHINGTON

DC *ROUTINE*; PACOM IDHS HONOLULU HI *ROUTINE*; CHINA POSTS
COLLECTIVE *ROUTINE*; ENVIRONMENT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
COLLECTIVE *ROUTINE*

XMT:

CARACAS, AMEMBASSY; ST PETERSBURG, AMCONSUL

Attachments:

20-BEIJING-226.eml.pdf

Action Post:

NONE

Dissemination Rule:

DIS_S_P_DemHumRightsGov, DIS_S_P_arms_cont, DIS_S_P_main,
DIS_S_P_PolMil

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Subject: Beijing and Wuhan EAC Regarding the Novel (2019-nCoV) Coronavirus
Date: Tue, 21 Jan 2020 04:53:32 -0500

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Info Office: s_p_arms, s_p_main, PolMil

MRN: 20 BEIJING 172
Date/DTG: Jan 21, 2020 / 210951Z JAN 20
From: AMEMBASSY BEIJING
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE *ROUTINE*
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: ASEC, SHLH, CDC, HHS, NIH, CN, PGOV, SENV, PREL, AMGT, CASC
Captions: SENSITIVE
Reference: 20 Beijing 166
Subject: Beijing and Wuhan EAC Regarding the Novel (2019-nCoV) Coronavirus

1. ~~(SBU)~~ Summary: Beijing and Wuhan's EACs met on January 21, 2020, to discuss Reftel and the novel (2019-nCoV) coronavirus in China. (b)(5)

(b)(5)
 (b)(5) Consular stated they released a MASCOT message on January 18th with a link to the CDC website containing the latest guidance on the novel (2019-nCoV) coronavirus. Management stated they will issue an updated Notice to all staff reflecting the most current CDC guidance. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

End Summary.

(b)(5)

2. (SBU)

(b)(5)

(b)(5) As of this morning there have been 218 cases in China, of which 198 are persons are from Wuhan and four people have died from the novel (2019-nCoV) coronavirus. Novel (2019-nCoV) coronavirus cases also have been reported in Japan, South Korea and Thailand- all in individuals who had recently travelled from Wuhan. CDC stated that although the Chinese media has reported that there are documented cases of novel (2019-nCoV) coronaviruses being transmitted from human to human contact, based on the currently available data, CDC characterizes the situation as limited human to human transmission and it is unclear how efficiently this virus is spreading. CDC has mobilized their Emergency Operations Center and issued a level 1 travel health watch which recommends that individuals to be aware of the novel (2019-nCoV) coronavirus, avoid contact with animals alive or dead, animal markets, and contact with sick people, use good hygiene practices, but does not recommend avoiding travel to China. CDC stated that airports in San Francisco, Los Angeles and New York City, which handle 75% of all Wuhan passengers entering the U.S., are monitoring persons coming into the U.S. from Wuhan. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

7. (SBU) Point of contact is RSO

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ESTH:

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HHS/OGA:

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HHS/CDC/CGH:

(b)(6)

EXEC/LEG:

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WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DEPT OF AGRICULTURE USD FAS
WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHINGTON
DC ROUTINE; DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DEPT OF
ENERGY WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DEPT OF HHS WASHINGTON
DC ROUTINE; DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY IP WASHINGTON
DC ROUTINE; ATLANTA GA, CDC ROUTINE; NATIONAL SECURITY
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TAIPEI, AIT ROUTINE

Action Post: NONE

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