



Mexico's Maria Espinoza, a Martial Artist Who  
Competes with All Her Heart  
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### China Penalizes Over 2,000 Public Officials for Not Protecting Environment

BEIJING – More than 2,000 public officials have been penalized across China for committing errors or improperly enforcing environmental protection regulations, the state-owned People's Daily reported Monday.

The penalties were imposed as a result of inspections conducted by the central government over a month in eight regions or provinces.

Most of the officials disciplined were found guilty of inadequately reporting environmental problems.

For example, in northwestern China's Ningxia autonomous region, several officials faced disciplinary action for publishing false information regarding toxic emissions from a factory.

More than 100 people have been detained and face charges for causing environmental damage and pollution, and they could be slapped with fines of more than 100 million yuan (\$15 million).

The government has not revealed other penalties that guilty officials could face following the inspections that began in mid-July and ended on Aug. 19 in Heilongjiang, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Henan and Yunnan provinces, and the regions of Inner Mongolia, Guang Zhuang and Ningxia.

In recent years, the government has implemented new measures, such as establishing a National Emissions Trading System by 2017, to fight the pollution that plagues parts of China.

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