

Officials punished after coal mine accident cover-up

Ten managers and officials have been removed from their posts after the cover-up of a fatal landslide at an open-pit coal mine which killed eight people, the provincial government in north China's Shanxi Province said Monday.

A landslide occurred on Aug. 11 at Lyuxin coal mine in Heshun County, but the mining company denied any casualties had occurred until its manager turned himself in to police confessing that 10 people had been buried in the accident.

Eight people have died, one was injured and one remains unaccounted for.

Five managers of the state-owned coal mine were removed from their posts and put under investigation. Five local officials, including vice county chief Feng Letian, were also fired. An investigation team is looking into their suspected wrongdoings.

Lyuxin coal mine, under Shanxi Coal Transportation and Sales Group Co., Ltd., has an annual coal capacity of 2 million tonnes.