

INQUIRE=DOC13D
 ITEM NO=00123217
 ENVELOPE
 CDSN = LGX758 MCN = 90355/41431 TOR = 903552126
 RTTUZYUW RUEKJCS3723 3552128-UUUU--RUEALGX.
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 HEADER
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 INFO RUEALGX/SAFE
 R 212018Z DEC 90
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 TO AIG 4581
 RUEADWD/DA WASHINGTON DC//DASG-MIR//
 RUEORDF/DIR AFMIC FT DETRICK MD//IS//
 ACCT FBOW-EWDK
 BT
 CONTROLS
 UNCLAS 1K

SERIAL: OW2112201890
 BODY
 PASS: COPY TO PROD TEP

COUNTRY: PRC
 SUBJ: STATE ADMINISTRATION BOOSTS CONTROL OF QIGONG PRACTITIONERS

SOURCE: BEIJING XINHUA IN ENGLISH 1608 GMT 21 DEC 90
 TEXT:

((TEXT)) BEIJING, DECEMBER 21 (XINHUA) -- CHINA IS TAKING MEASURES TO CONTROL THE SPREAD OF MEDICAL TREATMENT USING QIGONG ((A DEEP BREATHING METHOD)) IN A BID TO DEVELOP THIS TRADITIONAL CHINESE THERAPY IN A HEALTHY WAY.

ACCORDING TO AN OFFICIAL OF THE STATE ADMINISTRATION OF TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE, MANY CHARLATANS HAVE APPEARED RECENTLY PRETENDING TO BE QIGONG PRACTITIONERS WHILE IN FACT SWINDLING PEOPLE AND SPREADING SUPERSTITION.

ZHANG XIANGYU, A FEMALE SWINDLER WHO WAS RECENTLY ARRESTED, FRAUDED PEOPLE OF NEARLY ONE MILLION YUAN IN THIS WAY.

DEPARTMENTS OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN CHINA ARE NOW REVIEWING, REGISTERING, EXAMINING AND APPROVING VARIOUS QIGONG HOSPITALS, OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENTS, CLINICS, PRACTITIONERS. AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND PERSONNEL WHO TREAT PATIENTS WITH QIGONG THERAPY. SOME ILLEGAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PRACTITIONERS HAVE BEEN BANNED.

THE STATE ADMINISTRATION OF TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT WITH QIGONG AS A GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION. IT STIPULATES THAT PERSONNEL WHO TREAT PATIENTS WITH QIGONG THERAPY MUST BE PRACTITIONERS WITH SECONDARY MEDICAL SCHOOL EDUCATION OR QUALIFIED DOCTORS WHO HAVE EXPERTISE IN THE RELATIVE SKILLS.

IT ALSO STIPULATES THAT PERSONNEL WHO USE "OUTSIDE QI" TO TREAT PATIENTS MUST BE EXAMINED AND LICENSED BY THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATIONS

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OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE.
THE SAME APPLIES TO TEACHERS OF QIGONG, THE OFFICIAL SAID.

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