

Local girls aspire to represent China football in future



Girls of Jiading's Elite women's football team undergo the training. — Zhou Yulin

Tom Qian and Emma Song

THE Chinese women's football team was hailed as heroes after its historic 3-2 win over South Korea to take the Women's Asian Football Cup in Mumbai on February 6. It was the second women's championship for China, 16 years after its first.

The victory has stirred passions among players on Jiading's Elite women's football team, whose dream is to become members of the national team.

"I believe that I will be closer to my dream if I work hard now," said Li Simeng, a member of the team.

With the support from the district, Jiading Huilong Football Club has been selecting promising female football players from 16 primary and middle schools since 2013.

There are 100 players training in Jiading now. Girls cut their hair and train in adverse weather to prepare for different game conditions.

Sheng Yunlin, a core member of the team, credits her success in football to ongoing physical-strength training.

"I don't have any secret. If you want to win the game, you have to challenge yourself and break your limits.

Just remember, never give up," said Sheng.

Anting resident Gu Pingjuan, a retired player, is accustomed to being the backbone of the Chinese women's football team.

Gu and other team members, including Shui Qingxia and Sun Wen, the current and former national team coaches, have won eight championships of Chinese Women's Football Super League.

The day before winning the Asian Football Cup, Gu returned to Jiading to visit her old friends in the national team.

"These young girls have really done a great job. It reminds me of my old days as a football player," said Gu.

Born in 1968, Gu entered Shanghai Youth Sports School when she was 15 and became a member of the first official women's football team in Shanghai in 1984.

Gu joined the Chinese women's football team in 1989 when she and her team members won the championship in the second Women's Asian Football Cup in Hong Kong.

"Normally, I played as a back in the team, so I needed to learn how to play

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Sheng Yunlin

A core member of Jiading Huilong Football Club

defense as well as provide assists," said Gu.

After a series of injuries, she retired in 1998.

Gu still plays football with friends in her spare time.

"I often go back to Jiading, my hometown. Seeing kids playing football makes me feel relieved. I believe in the future, more kids will stand out and make us proud," said Gu.

Ensuring safety of cold-chain foods

Li Huacheng and Emma Song

LOGISTICS companies, supermarkets and food markets in Jiading District have taken strict control over cold-chain food to prevent the novel coronavirus from re-entering the country.

Shanghai Michang Logistics, a company specializing in cargo transportation, storage and unloading, is putting more emphasis on the disinfection of cold-chain cargo.

As the first storage place for cargo, the company has to make sure that none of the cold-chain food carries the coronavirus before it goes to market.

Though logistics companies have disinfected all food packages, supermarkets, food markets and food sales companies must have a second disinfection.

Jiading RT-MART, a national chain supermarket, is selling imported beef from Argentina and cherries from Chile, which are popular among consumers.

"We divide the food sector into two parts — the imported and domestic food. So it's more convenient for consumers to make choices according to their needs," said Wang Ying, manager of Jiading RT-MART. "All imported food is tagged with a QR code, informing consumers of the origin of products."

Staff with close contact to cold-chain food must be vaccinated before going to work, and their body temperatures are checked twice a day to ensure they're in good health.

In the next phase, Jiading will provide more guidance to cold-chain food companies, and related inspections and closed-loop management will be further implemented.

Billions of investment in key projects

Tom Qian

DEALS on 95 key industrial projects with an investment of 23 billion yuan (US\$3.6 billion) were signed at an event held by Jiading District on February 7, the first working day of the Year of the Tiger.

Among the 95 projects, 80 are funded by domestic companies while the other 15 have foreign investors. The projects range from renewable energy solutions, automobile technologies,

consumer-goods manufacturing to the Internet technologies.

The district achieved an added value of 270.56 billion yuan last year, an increase of 6.1 percent over 2020 and 2 percent over 2019.

The added value of the secondary industry was 159.15 billion yuan, an increase of 6 percent, and the tertiary industry was 111.06 billion yuan, up 6.3 percent.

In 2021, Jiading took in 22.92 billion

yuan in tax revenue, up 19.6 percent over 2020. The strategic emerging industries achieved an industrial output of 131.24 billion yuan last year, an increase of 10.3 percent over 2020.

Among key industries, the output of the automobile industry was 125.14 billion yuan, intelligent sensors and the Internet of Things was 38.4 billion yuan and high-performance medical equipment and precision medicine was 16.44 billion yuan.



Staff at Shanghai Michang Logistics wear protective suit when moving goods.