

China to spend \$1B on drug, food safety

by UPI

BEIJING -- China, facing mounting global pressure to improve the safety of its food and drug exports, plans to spend \$1.16 billion to upgrade supervision. The country's food and drug administration agency said the money will be used so the improvements can be in place by 2010, the China Daily reported Thursday. Agency spokeswoman Yan Jiangying said her agency will hold news conferences every two weeks to update the media. She said the program will allow inspectors to seal factories, arrange spot checks, and use whatever material they need to investigate substandard goods. "The current infrastructure and technology of China's food and drug supervision system lags behind what is needed, especially in the western regions," Yan said. "With this investment, China will comprehensively improve the infrastructure and technology for food and drug administration in three to five years."

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