

Analysis of environment catastrophe in the  
basin of Amur river as the result of accident  
at the chemical plant in Jilin, China (2005)

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**RUSSIA**

SEA OF OKHOTSK

Komsomolsk-on-Amur

Amur

Khabarovsk

**CHINA**

Sungari

Jilin

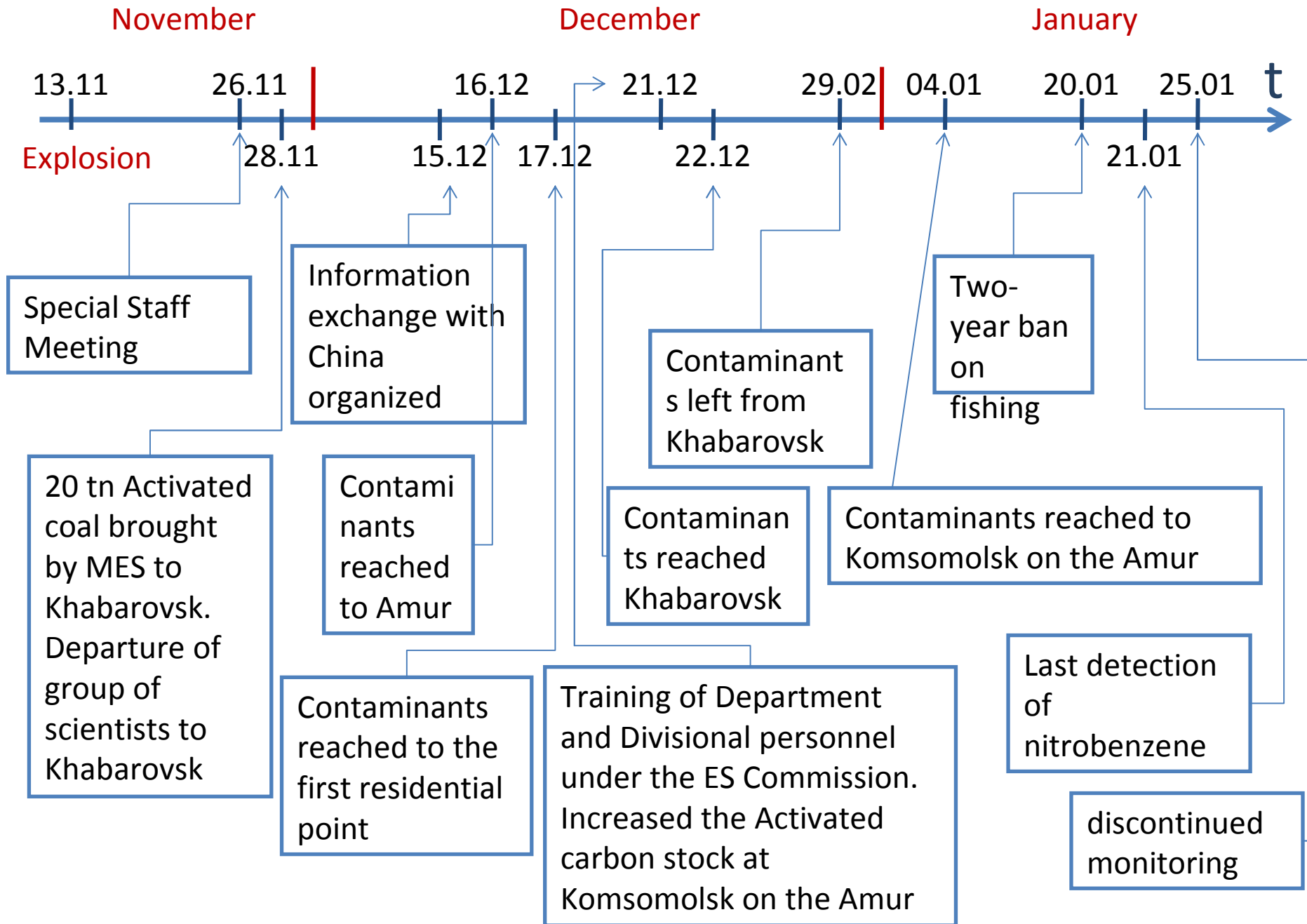
**MONGOLIA**

SEA OF JAPAN



**Benzene** is an aromatic hydrocarbon, soluble in water. It is toxic and carcinogenic. Benzene vapour can penetrate into the body, even through intact skin. It can cause leukaemia and anaemia.

**Nitrobenzene** is a toxic organic substance, does not dissolve in water. Used for the production of aniline and polishing agents for metal. Absorbed through the skin and has a strong effect on the central nervous system. Affects the metabolism, causes liver disease, and oxidizes the haemoglobin.



# Actions undertaken after the accident by Russia and China

- 2006 - Agreement was signed between the Khabarovsk Area and Heilongjiang Province on joint monitoring of the Amur and assessing the impact of disasters.
- Meeting of Prime Ministers of Russia and China was held. For the first time, not economy and not defence, but ecology was the predominant topic in the meeting.
- 2008 - Ministry of Russia and Ministry of Environment of China signed a Memorandum “On the establishment of the mechanism of notification and information exchange during cross-border emergency situations of ecological nature”
- Beginning from 2006 China has invested one billion Euros for the improvement of the Songhua.