

China on yellow alert for rainstorms

China's national weather observatory issued a yellow alert for rainstorms on Monday as heavy rain is expected in most of southern China over the next 24 hours.

From Monday to Tuesday, torrential rain is expected in parts of Guangdong, Fujian, Jiangxi, Hunan, Guizhou, Yunnan, and Sichuan provinces as well as Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Tibet Autonomous Region, according to the National Meteorological Center (NMC).

Some regions will receive up to 200 millimeters of precipitation, the NMC said.

The NMC also canceled former yellow alert for Typhoon Mawar Monday.

Mawar, the 16th typhoon this year, landed around 9:30 p.m. Sunday in Lufeng of Shanwei city in Guangdong, bringing gales of 20 meters per second at its eye, according to local meteorological authorities.

Heavy rain battered the landing areas. Local government said about 2,200 fishing boats had returned to the harbor while more than 15,000 people were relocated to safe places. Flights and trains were suspended.

Mawar is the third typhoon that landed in Guangdong in the recent half month after Hato and Pakhar.

China has a four-tier color-coded weather warning system, with red the most severe, followed by orange, yellow and blue.

China launches campaign against air pollution

The Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP) said Sunday that it will launch a campaign against heavy air pollution in autumn and winter.

The country should improve its forecast calculation capacity to extend the forecast period from seven to 10 days, providing sufficient time for taking effective measures, MEP said in a statement.

Emergency response plans should be improved in 28 cities in northern and central China to ensure the effectiveness of measures to cut emissions, the statement said.

In case of heavy air pollution, inspection teams will improve supervision of

local emergency response efforts.

If regional heavy pollution is forecast, MEP will forward the early warning information to affected cities as soon as possible to facilitate coordinated efforts.

MEP will also set up a Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei air environment management agency to help deal with heavy pollution in autumn and winter.

Boy rescued from 40-meter deep well

A 20-month old boy has been rescued by local fire-fighters after being trapped in a narrow well for 10 hours in Xi'an, capital of Shaanxi Province.

The child stumbled into the well around 9:30am Saturday.

Because the well is only 30-centimeters in diameter, a local excavation company provided 9 excavators to dig next to the well to reach the child.

The child's family kept the boy conscious during his ordeal by yelling out his name. Crews also pumped oxygen into the well.

The child is now recovering in hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

China renews yellow alert for Typhoon Mawar

China's National Meteorological Center (NMC) Sunday renewed the yellow alert for Typhoon Mawar, which is expected to hit south China's Guangdong Province on Sunday.

At 5 a.m. Sunday, the eye of Mawar, this year's 16th typhoon in the region, was above the South China Sea some 135 km southeast of Guangdong, packing winds up to 25 meters per second, the national observatory said.

The NMC forecast that Mawar would grow stronger while moving northwestward at a speed of about 10 km per hour toward Guangdong, expecting it to land in coastal areas later on Sunday.

The center of the typhoon is expected to weaken quickly after making landfall.

From Sunday to Monday, Mawar will bring gales to some waters near Fujian and Taiwan, as well as parts of the South China Sea. Meanwhile, parts of Guangdong and Fujian will experience rainstorms, the NMC said.

The NMC suggested local governments take precautions against possible disasters, and ships in affected areas return to ports.

China has a four-tier color-coded system for severe weather, with red being the most serious, followed by orange, yellow and blue.

China's new generation of military pilots starts training

More than a thousand new cadets have been inducted into China's Air Force Aviation University.



China's new generation of military pilots starts training with the changing face of the Chinese air force. [Photo/Xinhua]

They'll go on to be the next generation of pilots, and fly the J-20 jet fighter and Yun-20 transport aircraft.

During a ceremony on Friday, September 1, the PLA's air force commander, Ding Laihang, inspected more than 2,000 trainee pilots, including the new recruits who come from 31 different provinces in China, and who were selected from 120,000 high school graduates who applied for the air force program.

In a speech, Ding said unprecedented changes had taken place in China's air force, and he encouraged the new cadets to play their part in creating a more powerful Chinese air Force.

With the changing face of the Chinese air force, so too the training regimen for cadet pilots has been upgraded. Changes to education requirements, and earlier access to flight training, has dramatically shortened the training cycle of tomorrow's pilots.