

Typhoon Muifa lashes eastern China, forcing 1.6 million from their homes

September 14 2022



Typhoon Muifa hit Hangzhou in China's eastern Zhejiang province.

High winds and heavy rain lashed China's densely populated east coast on Friday, after Typhoon Muifa forced around 1.6 million people to leave their homes and grounded most flights at Shanghai's main airports.

Muifa is the strongest tropical cyclone to hit Shanghai—home to more than 25 million people—since record-keeping began in 1949, state broadcaster CCTV said.

However, there were no immediate reports of any deaths or casualties.

At least 426,000 people were evacuated in Shanghai and another 1.2 million people were taken to temporary shelters in neighbouring Zhejiang province, CCTV added.

Heavy rainfall led to traffic tailbacks and floods in several areas of the Yangtze river delta region, a major global manufacturing hub.

Giant waves were seen crashing onto the coastline in Hangzhou bay, to the south of Shanghai, and national radio reported a landslide in Ninghai County in Zhejiang province.

Packing winds of up to 82 kilometres (50 miles) per hour, the storm made landfall at around 12:00 am Friday (1600 GMT Thursday) in coastal areas of Qingdao, state news agency Xinhua reported.

Muifa previously hit the city of Zhoushan in Zhejiang on Wednesday and Shanghai's Fengxian district on Thursday.

It also led to the cancellation of all flights to China's biggest financial hub.

Air travel slowly resumed in Shanghai as the storm moved north, but most flights from the city's two main airports were cancelled Thursday morning, according to aviation data provider Flightradar24.

Operations at some of Asia's largest container shipping ports in Shanghai and neighbouring Ningbo that were halted because of the typhoon were

scheduled to resume Thursday, according to statements from port officials.

Officials ordered all fishing vessels in the Yellow Sea and Bohai Sea to anchor in ports as northeast China braced for the typhoon.

The storm came soon after Typhoon Hinnamnoor hit Shanghai and its neighbouring region last week, causing the suspension of Shanghai ferry services and school closures in parts of Zhejiang.

Muifa is the 12th typhoon to hit China this year, according to state media.

Tropical storms, which are expected to increase as the planet warms, were sharply up in 2021, a report by the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said earlier this month.

© 2022 AFP

Citation: Typhoon Muifa lashes eastern China, forcing 1.6 million from their homes (2022, September 14) retrieved 23 June 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2022-09-typhoon-muifa-landfall-china-coast.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.