

New names adopted for tropical cyclones in 2018

In 2018, four new names have been introduced to the list of tropical cyclone names in the western North Pacific and the South China Sea. They are Nyatoh, Trases, Mulan and Hinnamnor, replacing the old names Meranti, Sarika, Haima and Nock-ten respectively. The meanings of these four new names and the contributing countries/regions are set out in the following table:

Name	Meaning	Contributing country/region
Nyatoh	A kind of tree that grows in tropical rainforests in Southeast Asia	Malaysia
Trases	Woodpecker	Cambodia
Mulan	Magnolia, a kind of flower native to China	China
Hinnamnor	A National Protected Area in Lao PDR	Lao PDR

The new names were endorsed by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific/World Meteorological Organization Typhoon Committee at its 50th session held in Hanoi, Vietnam.

According to convention, the Typhoon Committee would consider retiring the name of a tropical cyclone which has caused serious human casualties and economic losses. In September 2016, at least two persons were killed and 63 were injured in Taiwan during the passage of Super Typhoon Meranti. Meranti also wreaked havoc in Fujian and Jiangxi, resulting in at least 29 deaths, 15 missing and about 2.5 million people affected with the collapse of around 18 000 houses. Super Typhoons Sarika and Haima hit the Philippines in quick succession within a week in October 2016, resulting in 11 deaths and three missing in total. In December 2016, at least six people were killed and eight were missing in the Philippines during the passage of Super Typhoon Nock-ten. Over 380 000 people were evacuated from their homes.

The updated list of tropical cyclone names and their corresponding meanings is available at the Hong Kong Observatory website at www.weather.gov.hk/informtc/sound/tcname2018e.htm.

Red flag hoisted at Hung Shing Yeh Beach

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (June 5) that due to big waves, the red flag has been hoisted at Hung Shing Yeh Beach in Islands District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at the beach.

Chai Wan Public Fill Barging Point to close

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

The Civil Engineering and Development Department today (June 5) announced that as the Standby Signal No. 1 has been issued, the Chai Wan Public Fill Barging Point will be closed at 1.20pm until further notice.

Red flag hoisted at Pui O Beach

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (June 5) that due to big waves, the red flag has been hoisted at Pui O Beach in Islands District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at the beach.

Transcript of remarks by CE at media session before ExCo meeting (with video)

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, at a media session before the Executive Council meeting this morning (June 5):

Reporter: Do you think the incident at the Shatin Central rail link has revealed some of the loopholes within the monitoring system between the Government and the MTR. And also secondly, there are reports suggesting that the Government is proposing the MTR to build some of the public housing on top of the MTR projects, can you confirm such reports? And also lastly, what's...

Chief Executive: Sorry, two questions are enough for me. I don't have a very good memory these days. Now, first of all, about the monitoring of railway projects, we take it very seriously and there are established mechanisms within the Transport and Housing Bureau, Highways Department, Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, to monitor these railway projects to ensure they are safe and effective. But it is too premature for me to comment right now on what actually has happened on that particular incident in the Hung Hom Station of the Shatin Central Link. We have asked or required the MTR Corporation Limited to submit the report to us as soon as possible, and I can assure you and assure the public, once the facts have been obtained, we will disclose the facts and tell the public if there is a need for any remedial action. As far as a report about using some of the topside developments of the mass transit railway stations for building public housing, whether it is for sale or for rental, again, this is only a speculative report. But what I want to say is, we are extremely concerned about the surging property prices in Hong Kong. The ultimate solution lies in finding more land to build more housing units, either for sale or for rental to people of Hong Kong, and my administration will exhaust every measure in order to achieve that objective.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)