

No environmental impact detected in China after DPRK nuclear test

The nuclear test conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on Sunday had not impacted China's environment as of 4 a.m. Monday, according to radiation monitoring data.

All monitoring stations in China's northeastern border areas in the provinces of Heilongjiang, Jilin, Liaoning and Shandong recorded radiation at normal levels, the Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP) said in an online statement.

The MEP on Sunday started monitoring the radiation levels in the border areas in an emergency response to the nuclear test. The monitoring data will be made public, it said.

The China Earthquake Administration reported that a magnitude 6.3 earthquake struck the DPRK at 11:30 a.m. Sunday with an epicenter depth of zero km, saying that it might have been caused by explosion.

The DPRK's Korea Central Television announced Sunday that the country had successfully detonated an H-bomb, a hydrogen bomb that can be carried by an intercontinental ballistic missile.

China's Foreign Ministry has issued a statement expressing firm opposition to and strong condemnation of the test.