

One missing, 120,000 affected by heavy rain in Guizhou

One person remains missing and 120,000 residents have damaged property after torrential rain since Friday in southwest China's Guizhou Province, the local government said Monday.

Heavy rain lashed 16 counties and cities, inundating farmland, damaging houses, forcing the evacuation of 1,079 residents and causing direct economic losses estimated at 48.7 million yuan (7.16 million U.S. dollars), according to the latest tally.

The local civil affairs department is investigating the damage and sending relief goods to affected areas.

Rain hit most parts of China's central, eastern and southern regions over the weekend. China Central Meteorological Station Monday morning maintained rainstorm alerts for a third consecutive day in Guangdong, Guizhou, Hebei, Jiangxi and Zhejiang provinces.

Typhoon Merbok, the second typhoon of the year, is forecast to make landfall in Guangdong late Monday, intensifying rainstorms in southern and eastern regions.