Heavy rain to hit many parts of China

Heavy rain will hit much of China in the next two days, the country's meteorological authority said Sunday.

Torrential rain will sweep parts of south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Guizhou Province as well as the central province of Hunan and the eastern province of Jiangxi on Sunday, according to the National Meteorological Center (NMC).

The NMC renewed a blue alert for rainstorms in those regions on Sunday.

On Monday, downpours will continue to hit some areas of Guangxi and Hunan, the NMC forecast.

Certain parts of north and northeast China will also see thunderstorms from Sunday to Monday.

The NMC reminded local residents to halt outdoor work and take precautions against mountain torrents, landslides and mud-rock flows.

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

China Eastern denies insulting Indian at Shanghai airport

China Eastern Airlines on Saturday denied the alleged insult of an Indian at Shanghai Pudong International Airport reported by an Indian news outlet.

In a statement, the company said that after checking related materials and the airport CCTV footage, it found the news reports did not conform to the fact.

Instead, the airlines employees offered meticulous service, it said.

The company said it is dedicated to providing quality flight service for passengers around the world.

The Times of India reported on Thursday that North American Punjabi Association executive director Satnam Singh Chahal wrote a letter to Indian External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj to complain that he had unfair treatment at the Shanghai airport as he took China Eastern Airlines flight MU564.

Chahal was on his way from New Delhi to San Francisco and had a stopover in Shanghai to catch his next flight of the same airlines to his destination, the India newspaper reported.

China cracks down on earthquake rumors and fraud

[unable to retrieve full-text content] China's Ministry of Public Security has been investigating crimes related to earthquake rumors online and charity fraud after a deadly earthquake struck southwest China's Sichuan Province, the ministry said Saturday.

Beijing closes 171 tourist sites amid rain, flights disrupted

Heavy rain in Beijing on Saturday forced authorities to close 171 tourist sites and disrupted at least 278 flights.

Thirteen roads had been flooded in Beijing when rainfall peaked on Saturday morning, according to the municipal flood control authority. Relief workers are draining the water.

At Beijing Capital International Airport, 119 flights were delayed and another 159 were canceled as of noon on Saturday.

The rain weakened in the afternoon, but the flood control authority still warned people against going out, especially near rivers or to climb mountains.

<u>Writer in court over 'one mistake one thousand yuan' pledge</u>

A Chinese writer is facing a bill of over 172 thousand yuan (almost US\$

26,000) after making a promise five years ago to pay a thousand yuan for every mistake found in his book, reports Beijing News.

Zhang Yiyi published his book in February, 2012. A month later, he posted on the Weibo social media platform that "anyone who finds a mistake in my book will receive 1001 yuan."

In his post, Zhang said that various media insiders were "witness to his words".

Recently, Bai Ping, a professor of the College of Liberal Arts of Shanxi University, announced that he had found 172 mistakes in Zhang's book, which included factual errors, grammatical mistakes, and wrongly-written or mispronounced characters.

After negotiations broke down, Bai decided to sue the writer for 172,172 yuan.

The case was accepted by a court in Beijing, and received a first hearing on August 10, 2017.

During the session, Zhang's lawyer argued that the reward offered by Zhang had a time limit, albeit "not clearly stated," and suggested that the so-called 172 mistakes were too "subjective," or lacked evidence.

Bai's lawyer said his client would accept a discount of 20 percent, but Zhang's lawyer said only 10,000 yuan reward was on the table.

The two sides failed to reach an agreement in court.

A similar "One mistake, One thousand yuan" dispute occurred in 2010, when Bai Ping spotted 909 errors in a book written by Chinese writer Yan Chongnian, and demanded an 850,000 yuan reward as a result.

The case collapsed after the court decided Yan's words made during an interview were meant as a "joke" rather than as a "promise".