

7 killed, 2 injured in Guangzhou tower crane collapse

Seven people were killed and two others injured after a tower crane collapsed in southern Chinese city of Guangzhou Saturday, local government said.

The accident occurred at around 6:30 p.m. at a construction site in the city's Haizhu District, the district government said in a press release.

The two injured are in stable condition, it said.

An investigation into the cause of the accident has been launched.

Blood donors come forward after fatal explosion in Hangzhou

Residents of Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, have flooded into local blood donation centers, following an explosion that killed two and injured 45 others on Friday.

As of Saturday morning, seven of the injured, two males and five females, remained in critical conditions, and doctors have traveled from Shanghai to assist with their treatment, according to provincial health authorities.

Yang Jing, director of the provincial health and family planning commission, is leading the treatment plan.

The explosion ripped through the ground and second floors of three restaurants at around 8:30 a.m., destroying an area of 200 square meters on Gudun Road near West Lake. The blast shattered the windows of passing vehicles, including a bus, which caused most of the injuries.

Bottled liquefied petroleum gas has been blamed for causing the explosion.

Liang Chao said he was lucky as he took a detour on his way to work on Friday morning to avoid a traffic jam.

"I drive along that road every day, and could have been one of the victims," he said, while waiting in line to donate blood along with his wife, surnamed Chen.

After hearing about the explosion, the couple rushed to a blood donation center just 300 meters from the blast site.

"We often eat at these restaurants. Many of the injured were here to have breakfast or wait for buses outside," said Chen. "I hope we can help them by donating blood."

Simon Quirin, a German national working in Hangzhou, was among the donors waiting at the center. "I saw a news report about the blast, and as it's been enough time since I last donated blood, I am able to donate again now," he said.

Hao Weichen and many others who regularly donate blood were quick to arrive at the blood donation centers.

"As experienced volunteers, we know we are needed following the accident like this," said Hao, who has donated blood over 200 times.

According to the provincial blood donation headquarters, 1,448 people had donated blood as of 11 p.m. Friday.

The blood donation centers have announced they will extend opening hours on Saturday.

As of 8 a.m., the six hospitals treating the blast victims had used 21,600 mm of red blood cells and nearly 30,000 mm of plasma as transfusions for the injured.

[6 Chinese nurses win Florence Nightingale Medal](#)



Six Chinese nurses who were awarded the Florence Nightingale Medal pose for a photo with Chinese Vice President Li Yuanchao. [Photo: Xinhua]

Six Chinese nurses were awarded the Florence Nightingale Medal for their outstanding contributions to healthcare.

Chinese Vice President Li Yuanchao presented the medals at a ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

The nurses included Li Xiuhua and Yang Li who both work in Beijing, Yang Hui from north China's Shanxi Province, Yang Huiyun from northwest China's Shanxi Province, Yin Yanling from northeast China's Jilin Province and You Jianping from southwest China's Chongqing Municipality.

There are 39 nurses from 22 countries won the accolade this year.

The Nightingale Award was established by the International Committee of the Red Cross in 1912 and is presented every two years.

Florence Nightingale, a British nurse during the Crimean War from 1854 to 1856, was regarded as the pioneer of the modern nursing.

A total of 79 Chinese nurses have won the award since the Chinese Red Cross Society began to recommend candidates for the award in 1983.

Chinese graduate volunteers go west

A group of 82 recent graduates from universities in Beijing set off Friday to serve as volunteers in the country's remote and underdeveloped western regions, according to the Central Committee of China Communist Youth League (CCYL).

They departed Beijing onboard a train heading for Urumqi in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, marking the start of the "Go West" program for in 2017.

Nearly 80,000 college graduates from 1,876 universities applied for the program this year; 18,300 of them were selected to take part.

The "Go West" program, which was jointly launched by the CCYL, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security in 2003, aims to send university graduates to perform volunteer work in education, health, agriculture and social management sectors in the country's western regions for a period of one to three years.

Over the past 15 years, the program has sent more than 270,000 young people to over 2,100 county-level regions in central and western China.

Rescued rare dolphin released back to sea

A rare rough-toothed dolphin, Jiangjiang, was released back to sea earlier this week, two months after it beached itself and was rescued in south China's Guangdong Province.

The 2.2-meter male dolphin was found stranded on the coast of Heisha Bay in the city of Jiangmen on May 3. It was suffering breathing troubles, according to Yang Naicai, a vet who joined the rescue operation.

Rescuers checked the dolphin's breathing, gave an injection of antibiotics, and provided food and medicine to help it regain its strength.

The animal was housed in a pool designated for dolphin rescue at the Pearl River Estuary Chinese White Dolphin National Nature Reserve.

"We maintained round the clock monitoring, hoping for a miracle," said Chen Hailiang, from the reserve.

The dolphin, which weighs around 100 kg, was released back to the sea on Thursday as its physical condition had returned to normal.

Although the rough-toothed dolphin, a national second class protected species, can be found in deep tropical, subtropical and temperate waters around the world, it is a rare visitor to Chinese coastal waters.

In 2014, a rough-toothed dolphin stranded in Guangdong died despite rescue efforts.