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Premier Jiang Visited Typhoon Soulik Central Emergency Operation Center (CEOC)

Premier Yi-Huah Jiang visited the CEOC this morning (July 13) and indicated, Because Typhoon Soulik moved rapidly, it was fortunate that no serious flood was caused in Yilan and New Taipei City. Notwithstanding, Taiwan has not yet got away from the Typhoon so far. According to the forecast of the Central Weather Bureau (CWB), it is still very likely that the rainfall in the mountain areas of Hsinchu and Miaoli would attain 700~1,000 mm. and, therefore, potential debris flows must be prevented cautiously. Meanwhile, because torrential rains might be caused by the circulations, Premier Jiang also instructed Council of Agriculture to enhance supervision of the rainfall in the mountain areas of Central Taiwan and Southern Taiwan in next two days, and reminded the local governments to stay vigilant. For the flooding or storm surges in the lowland areas at the western coast, Premier asked various ministries/departments to keep in touch with local governments to take care of it.

According to Premier Jiang, a total of 8,000 persons above have been evacuated throughout the nation this morning, 3,500 persons out of them were settled in the sheltered houses. Because the evacuation was completed soon in one day, no serious casualty was caused. Notwithstanding, unfortunately, Typhoon Soulik still caused one person's death and twenty-one persons' casualties. The deceased was a police officer, who died of the attack by the brick fallen in the strong wind in Tamshui. Premier Jiang instructed the National Policy Agency to provide the most favorable benefit to the survivors of the deceased.

Premier Jiang indicated that although the Typhoon is getting away, various departments shall still work hard to control the disaster in a timely manner, and all of the underground pipelines and facilities should be restored ASAP. Now, a total of 450,000 households still suffer power failure, and the power supply is expected to be restored by tonight. Further, about 3,000 civilians are held in shelters now. Premier Jiang instructed Ministry of Interior and local governments to work with each other, and also asked the civilians to stay calm,

and not to return home until the debris flow alarm is released and the safety on road is secured.

For the transportation, THRSC will not reopen the whole railway until this afternoon or evening. Premier Jiang instructed Ministry of Transportation and Communications to be prepared for release of the relevant message to enable the civilians to know about the reopening of railway. In the meantime, Ministry of National Defense also sent its military force to help evacuation and building of sand bags. In the case of further disaster, Ministry of National Defense will be required to work with local governments to relieve the disaster.

The panic buying of vegetables and fruits by civilians with psychological expectations before the attack of the Typhoon has caused the price fluctuation two days ago. Nevertheless, the situation was under control on July 12. Premier Jiang instructed Council of Agriculture to pay attention to the supply and price of various vegetables and fruits after the Typhoon leaves, and release the frozen vegetables and fruits stored in the warehouse as possible as it can.

Premier Jiang finally appreciated all of the hardworking co-workers who have stuck to their jobs to be prepared for the preparedness against the disaster since CEOC was established. Especially, he appreciated Vice Premier Mao, and the commander, Minister Hong-Yuan Lee, who have been accommodated in CEOC to control the messages immediately. Premier Jiang also called on the first-line co-workers throughout the nation to stay vigilant toward their personal safety when engaging in the preparedness against the disaster, in order to pass through the hardship by the natural calamity successfully.