

Typhoon Talim Press Release from the Central Emergency Operation Center

Cabinet strategy group

President Ma Makes an Inspection Visit to the Center Orders Disaster Prevention Preparations Strengthened

To acquire an understanding of the current situation regarding Typhoon Talim and to encourage Center staff to keep up their tireless efforts, President Ma made an inspection visit to the Center at 11.30 am today (20); after hearing reports from various units, he said that the typhoon storm circle is already approaching Penghu and Kinmen and wind and rain will gradually intensify, and instructed that the whole of Taiwan should be on high alert and disaster prevention work effectively carried out in preparation for the heavy rains that will be brought by the southwestern air current that will follow the typhoon.

President Ma pointed out the importance of carrying out evacuation of high-risk areas, especially those that are prone to being cut off, saying that advance preventive evacuation should be carried out while roads are still passable. Some people are still living in shelters after the June 10 floods and are unable to return home yet and he asked that local government personnel involved in the relief effort show these people love and patience and take good care of them. He also said that the central government has increased the budget for mountain control and flood prevention, however, the drainage systems of some urban areas are still inadequate and, consequently, pumps need to be placed in appropriate places before heavy rain begins to prevent flooding or at least keep the height of the water down; also, work to remove silt from drains should be effectively carried out. President Ma said that if both the cause and the systems are dealt with simultaneously the scale of disaster can be reduced to a minimum.