

Striving Towards a Modern Coastal Metropolis

# Ningbo Rises to the Challenge of Typhoon Muifa

By Dong Na

Typhoon Muifa, the 12<sup>th</sup> typhoon of this year, made landfall in Zhoushan's Putuo at around 8:30 PM on Wednesday, September 14th. Ningbo upgraded its typhoon emergency response to Level I at 5 PM on Tuesday. The city was greatly affected by the continuous downpours brought by the typhoon. City authorities responded actively, going all out to protect citizens and their property.

## Precautions Before Landfall

Ningbo experienced gales and torrential rainfall from Wednesday to Thursday. The city had made emergency preparations in advance and taken precautionary measures against possible geological disasters.

In coastal areas, all commercial and recreational fishing boats were ordered to halt activities and return to port to take shelter on Tuesday. Ningbo also suspended all 26 of the city's passenger ferry routes; more than 15,000 passengers were evacuated.

The Ningbo maritime authorities instructed all ships to seal their cabins, secure movable parts, and make sure their communication equipment is operational. Cargo vessels were advised to halt the loading and unloading of cargo and leave unsafe berths. Emergency rescue vessels were put on standby in port areas.

According to the Ningbo Bureau of Culture, Radio, Television and Tourism, 36 tourist attractions across the city had been closed by Tuesday morning. Residents were warned against going outdoors during periods of strong wind and rain.

## Supportive Communities During Extreme Weather

On September 13th, Ningbo's emergency response went into full swing.

In a series of efficient



Many fishing boats are moored in the harbor to shelter from the typhoon in Xiangshan.

[Photo by Tang Yan]

evacuation efforts, coastal fish farmers and fishermen returned to harbor to take shelter, while residents in hilly regions of the Siming Mountains, Yuyao, Yinzhou, Haishu were temporarily relocated. By 11 PM on Tuesday, 260,000 people had been moved to safety.

At 10 AM on Wednesday, in Ninghai County's Qiaotouhu subdistrict, about 350 migrant workers queued up to receive emergency food packages from a disaster shelter.

The makeshift homes that these construction workers live in pose a potential safety hazard during typhoon weather, which was why local officials of the Qiaotouhu subdistrict acted quickly to move the workers to a nearby shelter.

The shelter could accommodate up to 500 people and was supplied with water, instant noodles, masks, and rubbing alcohol. Five volunteers and a doctor were available around the

clock to provide medical support and general assistance.

Earlier in the week, the Ningbo Education Bureaus issued a directive for all primary schools, secondary schools, kindergartens, and off-campus learning institutions to suspend classes on Wednesday and Thursday.

On Wednesday morning, Zhenhai District's Bailong Community organized daycare for local children from 8:30 AM to 5 PM. Volunteer counsellors taught the children singing, reading, and paper-cutting art.

"I have many friends here to keep me company, and the activities were fun," Yu Zanyi, a fifth-grade student, said.

Offering daycare during a typhoon is a meaningful way for a community to support its citizens. This successful model will be rolled out across other parts of the city in the event of future typhoons and other extreme weather.

## Ensuring Road Safety and Protecting Harvests

At the Ningbo North Expressway toll station on the morning of September 14<sup>th</sup>, the staff worked in the whipping wind and rain, guiding incoming vehicles to the designated lanes for information registry and PCR testing. All of them were drenched, their raincoats soaked through and clinging to their bodies.

At the Cicheng toll station, where traffic was lighter, the staff could take shelter indoors from time to time. "From early this morning to 10 AM, we had to check more than 70 vehicles, mainly delivery trucks. The heavy rain is a challenge for us," said Zhou Xinhong, an officer from Jiangbei traffic police brigade.

At the Xiangshan Zhushanguo Rural Cooperative, farmers rushed to their greenhouses, rip-

ping off the plastic film to deepen the irrigation channels.

Xiangshan's Xiaotang Township is the birthplace of the "Red Beauty", a premium citrus variety. 50% of the township's arable land is planted with oranges trees, half of which are "Red Beauty" trees. Xiaotang's annual output accounts for about a quarter of Xiangshan's total.

The Zhushanguo Cooperative has more than 80 "Red Beauty" greenhouses, harvesting 200 tons of citrus each year.

As the typhoon moved closer, orange farmers dug deep trenches in the greenhouse to prevent flooding, braving the heavy rain. They also installed cabling and bracing around fruit trees and made sure all irrigation channels in the greenhouses were cleared of debris. Netting was tied around the greenhouse, an additional layer of protection from the strong winds.

SPOTLIGHT

## Frisbee Gaining Popularity Among Ningbo's Young People

By Xu Zhuowei

Recently, ultimate frisbee has been gaining popularity among Ningbo's young people. The sport has already gone viral on Chinese social media and is being embraced by the new generation across the country. What is the magic of ultimate frisbee and why has it gathered so many followers so quickly?

One evening earlier this week, 20 frisbee enthusiasts played a game of ultimate frisbee at Ninghai's Xiake Sports Park. Xiao Xu, a woman in her twenties, was a first-time player. After the game ended, she posted photos on social media and exclaimed that the game had been "great fun".

Ji Yuqing was the organizer of the evening's frisbee game. As one of the first people in Ninghai to start playing ultimate frisbee, she received professional training as a member of the Ningbo women's team "3302 Girls" and participated in the 2022 Hangzhou Women's Frisbee competition in July.

"I began playing frisbee as a sport in April this year but paused training during the COVID spike. In total, I have trained for four months," said Ji Yuqing modestly. "I am not a professional coach, just someone who got into the sport earlier than others. I want to get more people interested in ultimate frisbee in China."

Ultimate frisbee was developed in the US in the 1940s and attracted a significant following in the West in the 1960s. By the time that it arrived in Asia, it was already a well-recognized sport. However, it was only half a year ago that this sport took off on Chinese social media, becoming better known by the general public.

Ji Yuqing points out a couple of reasons for the spike of interest in flying disc sports. During the pandemic, people have become more health-conscious and more inclined to get active. Additionally, frisbee is a beginner-friendly sport, thanks to its simple rules.

"Compared with other traditional sports, frisbee does not require as much equipment or field setup. All you need is a pair of running shoes, a frisbee, and a glove. The game can be played anytime in any open space, be it a park, community square, or campus sports field," Ji Yuqing said.

Moreover, frisbee encourages socializing. "As one of the few mixed-gender and self-refereeing team sports, frisbee is great for building new friendships. Many people have found like-minded friends through playing frisbee," Ji Yuqing said.

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双语汇 Different Tongues

## 东海半边山：海上麒麟，健康小镇

By Jin Lu

The East China Sea Banbianshan Tourist Resort is located on the coast of East China Sea in Shipu Town, Xiangshan County. Surrounded by the sea on three sides, the peninsula is shaped like the mythical Chinese creature *qilin*. A short distance away from the peninsula are two small islands. With an area of about 8km<sup>2</sup>, Banbianshan is the largest seaside tourism resort and eco-protection zone in east China.

东海半边山旅游度假区，位于象山石浦镇东海之滨，三面环海，形如麒麟，两岛相伴，白浪相拥，度假区面积8平方公里，是华东地区最

大的生态型综合性海洋旅游项目。

The Resort has many natural sights and cultural attractions, including rolling hills, bays, beaches, islands, reefs, and fishing villages. The Resort aims to become a multifunctional family-friendly destination that offers sports activities, learning programs, wellness services, and meeting services with a small carbon footprint, high level of eco-consciousness, and scientific management.

度假区依托山脉、海洋、沙滩、岛礁、渔村等自然与人文资源，遵循低碳、生态、智慧的理念，打造集亲子度假、滨海运动、康体养生、研学拓展于一体的海滨度假休闲胜地和文旅商住多功能的



The East China Sea Banbianshan Tourist Resort./ 东海半边山。 [Photo by Tang Yan]唐严 摄

旅游度假目的地。

The East China Sea Banbianshan Resort's development will make full use of its natural environment to become a

popular coastal destination with six key attractions in four "themed areas": accommodation, wellness, sports, and culture.

东海半边山项目依托自然山海资源，打造滨海休闲胜地，重点打造四大板块、六个中心，包括旅游度假、健康养老、健康体育、文化创新等主题领域。

