



New Names Adopted for Tropical Cyclones in 2017



Choy Chun-wing

In 2017, four new names have been added to the list of tropical cyclone names in the western North Pacific and the South China Sea. Details are as follows:



For details about the origin of tropical cyclone names, please watch the "Cool Met Stuff" episode "Typhoon Pineapple Bun". Mr Shun Chi-ming, the Director of the Hong Kong Observatory, and Mr Lam Chiu-ying, former Director of the Hong Kong Observatory, will tell you more.



Name	Meaning	Contributing country/region
Saudel	Trusted guard/soldier of legendary Pohnpei Chief Soudelor	Micronesia
Surigae	A kind of eagle	DPR Korea
Koguma	Ursa Minor, the Little Bear	Japan
Cempaka	Plant known for its fragrant flowers	Malaysia

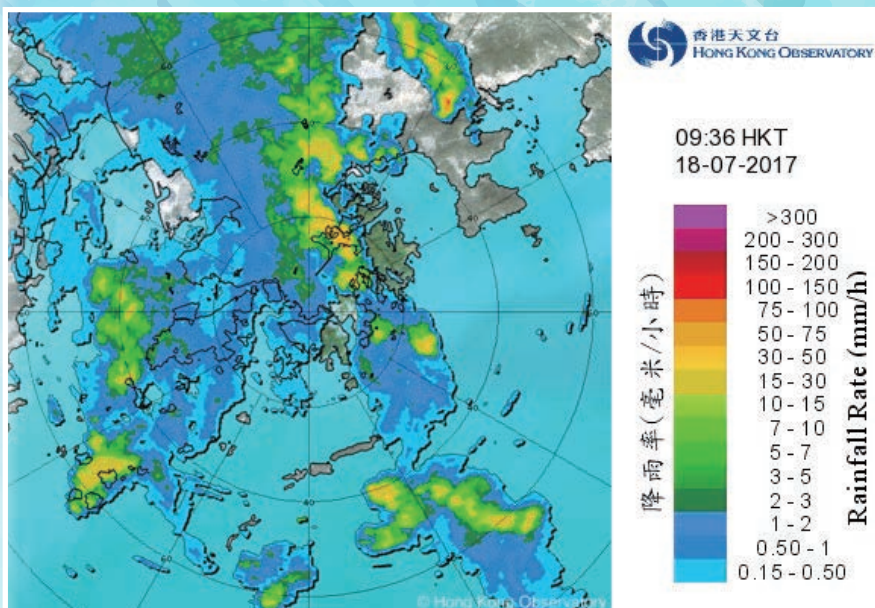


According to convention, the Typhoon Committee will consider removing the name of a tropical cyclone which has caused serious human casualties and economic losses. Therefore, the old names "Soudelor", "Mujigae", "Koppu" and "Melor" have been removed from the list.



Announcement on Localised Heavy Rain

Stephen Lau



To enhance the provision of information on heavy rain to the public, the Observatory launched the Announcement on Localised Heavy Rain service last year. When rainfall of 70 millimetres or more is recorded in an hour in individual districts of Hong Kong, and if heavy rain is not widespread over Hong Kong, without reaching the criteria for a Red or Black Rainstorm Warning Signal, the Observatory will issue an "Announcement on Localised Heavy Rain", indicating the affected district(s) and the rainfall recorded.

For example, on 18 July, heavy rain affected Tai Po District in the morning, causing serious flooding in some areas. On the radar images, it was clear that the rain in the district was significantly heavier than in other areas, necessitating the issuance of the Announcement on Localised Heavy Rain.

Apart from the Amber, Red and Black rainstorm warning signals, the public should now pay attention to these announcements, so they can take necessary precautions.