

Powerful Typhoon Fung-Wong Threatens Northern Philippines with Heavy Rain



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MANILA, Philippines, Nov. 6— A powerful tropical cyclone named Typhoon Fung-Wong is rapidly intensifying over the western Pacific Ocean and is expected to reach Category 4-equivalent supertyphoon strength this weekend, forecasters warned on Thursday. The storm is projected to move toward the northern regions of Luzon, bringing the potential for torrential rain, destructive winds, and dangerous storm surges from late Sunday into Monday.

According to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), Fung-Wong was last observed several hundred kilometers east of the Philippines, moving northwestward while steadily gaining strength over warm ocean waters. Meteorologists indicate that favorable atmospheric conditions, including low wind shear and high sea-surface temperatures, could allow the typhoon to intensify further before nearing land.

While the worst impacts are expected north of Manila, PAGASA has advised residents in Cagayan Valley, Ilocos Region, and Cordillera Administrative Region to prepare for possible flooding, landslides, and power outages. Coastal communities have also been urged to remain alert for storm surges and rough seas, as waves could reach dangerous heights in exposed areas.

Local disaster response agencies and provincial governments have been placed on high alert, with preemptive evacuations under consideration in low-lying and high-risk areas. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) has prepositioned relief goods and emergency supplies across northern Luzon provinces.

Fung-Wong is the latest in a series of intense storms to develop in the western Pacific this season, highlighting the growing challenges of climate-related extreme weather events affecting the region. Authorities continue to monitor the storm closely as it approaches Philippine territory.