

Storm Rages Through Southern Russian City of Barnaul

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Vkontakte

At least one person died and 15 people were injured when a storm swept through the city of Barnaul in western Siberia on Saturday evening.

Temperatures averaged 38 degrees Celsius when a tropical storm broke out around 9 p.m. local time, local media report.

City authorities declared a state of emergency after several villages on the outskirts of Barnaul saw electricity outages, with trees ripping through billboards and damaging cars.

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At least 15 people received light injuries after the recreational “Barracuda” river barge they were on was thrust against a bridge pillar by heavy winds, the Interfax news agency reported.

Some 120 passengers on board the river cruise boat had to be evacuated, transport officials

said.

The operator of a construction crane died after the crane fell over, the Investigative Committee said in a statement, adding that it had opened a criminal investigation into possible safety violations at the site.

There was also some good news: An eight-year-old girl presumed to have gone missing during the storm re-appeared on Sunday, the regional branch of the Investigative Committee announced. The girl was unharmed and had reportedly been with friends, the report said.

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