



The Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defence, Emergencies and Elimination
of Consequences of Natural Disasters

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**EMERCOM of Russia opened a division on the Kuril Islands to protect the
population and territories from emergencies**

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On August 5, during a working trip to the Sakhalin Region, the head of the EMERCOM of Russia Yvgeny Zinichev opened a new Emergency Rescue Center for monitoring and forecasting emergencies in the South Kuril city district, on the island of Kunashir.

The center is equipped with modern technology, the latest systems for monitoring and forecasting weather, as well as complexes for observing geodynamic processes. The presence of such a unit will enhance the protection of the population and territory from natural and man-made emergencies. A similar center will soon start operating on Iturup Island.

The Minister noted the importance of the social and economic development of the Kuril Islands and personally attached a marble plaque to the Memorial Stone with a quote from the Russian Emperor Nicholas I: "Wherever the Russian flag is raised, it should not go down there."

During the solemn ceremony, the audience honored a minute of silence in memory of the Soviet soldiers who died during the Kuril landing operation in August 1945, which became a significant contribution to the defeat of militaristic Japan and the return of the Kuril Islands and South Sakhalin to the Soviet Union.

"We will always honor the memory of the victims and remember their deeds. It is our sacred duty," the Minister said.

At the end of the event, Evgeniy Zinichev presented the new search and rescue unit with a certificate for 9 pieces of equipment. He also awarded the rescuers with departmental awards and wished the staff of the new rescue center professional success.