

Waterlogging, traffic jams, flight diversions as rain lashes in Delhi

NEW DELHI, JUNE 17: Pre-monsoon showers lashed Delhi on Tuesday, bringing much-needed relief from the sweltering heat but also causing problems of waterlogging and traffic congestion in many areas.

As many as 12 flights were diverted at the Delhi airport between 3 pm and 4 pm due to adverse weather conditions, an official said.

The downpour led to knee-deep waterlogging in several areas like the underpass near Delhi Cantonment, Zakhira Underpass, PulPrahadpur, ITO, and Delhi Najafgarh Road and Delhi Rohtak Road, affecting vehicular movement.

Earlier in the day, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) had issued a red alert for Delhi and neighbouring regions, forecasting thunderstorms accompanied by hail, moderate to heavy rainfall, and gusty winds with speeds reaching 50-70 kmph at isolated places.

According to IMD data, the rainfall recorded at various weather stations included 10 mm at Safdarjung, 5 mm at Lodhi Road, 41 mm at Pusa, 15 mm at Narayana, and 23 mm at Ayanagar.

At the Palam and Safdarjung stations, winds with speeds of 35-40kmph were observed from 2.30 pm to 3 pm and recently at 6.30 pm.

The maximum temperature in the national capital settled at 36.2 degrees Celsius, which was 3.8 notches below the season's average. The minimum temperature



was recorded at 28 degrees Celsius, 1.5 degrees above normal. The relative humidity was 61 per cent at 5.30 pm.

For Wednesday, the IMD has issued a yellow alert, predicting thunderstorms with lightning, light to moderate rainfall, and thundersqualls with wind speeds of 50-60 kmph, particularly during the night.

The maximum and minimum temperatures are expected to hover around 34 and 27 degrees Celsius, respectively.

The IMD also issued a moderate thunderstorm warning, highlighting potential impacts and precautionary measures. It cautioned that intense lightning could pose a threat to life, especially in open areas.

Disruptions to traffic and delays in flight and train services are also likely. The advisory noted risks to livestock and people working outdoors.

Residents have been advised to remain indoors and avoid unnecessary travel. The IMD recommended unplugging electrical appliances during storms to avoid damage from lightning. People were also warned against taking shelter under trees or metal structures and using mobile phones in open areas during lightning activity.

The weather office has urged the public to stay updated through its official

website and verified media sources.

Delhi remains under a yellow alert until Thursday, with the forecast indicating light to moderate rain, thunderstorms, lightning, and gusty winds through the period.

Meanwhile, the city's air quality was recorded in the 'moderate' category on Tuesday. According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the Air Quality Index (AQI) was recorded at 104 at 4 pm.

According to the CPCB, an AQI between zero and 50 is considered 'good', 51 and 100 'satisfactory', 101 and 200 'moderate', 201 and 300 'poor', 301 and 400 'very poor', and 401 and 500 'severe'.

Rains lash Delhi-NCR; IMD issues safety advisory

NEW DELHI, JUNE 17: Earlier in the day, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) had issued a red alert for Delhi and surrounding areas, predicting thunderstorms accompanied by hail, moderate to heavy rainfall, and gusty winds reaching speeds of 50-70 kilometres per hour at isolated places.

The IMD has also issued a moderate thunderstorm warning, highlighting potential impacts and safety measures for the public.

According to the IMD advisory, intense lightning may pose a risk to life, especially in open areas. Traffic disruptions are likely, and flight or train services may face delays. There is also a risk to livestock and people working outdoors.

It also mentioned that residents are advised to remain indoors and avoid unnecessary travel. Electrical appliances should be unplugged to prevent damage from lightning surges.

People have been cautioned against taking shelter under trees or metal structures and using mobile phones outdoors during



lightning activity.

Farmers and outdoor workers should immediately suspend work and seek shelter, it stated.

The IMD has advised the public to stay tuned to official updates through its website and verified media channels.

Meanwhile, the minimum temperature in the national capital settled at 29 degrees Celsius on Tuesday, 1.5 degrees above the seasonal average. The relative humidity

was recorded at 71 per cent at 8.30 am.

The maximum temperature is likely to reach around 34 degrees Celsius during the day, according to the IMD.

Earlier, the national capital was placed under a 'yellow alert' until Thursday, predicting light to moderate rain, thunderstorms, lightning, and gusty winds with speeds up to 50-60 kmph during this period.

The city's air quality re-

mained in the 'satisfactory' category on Tuesday morning, with the Air Quality Index (AQI) recorded at 96 at 9 am, according to data from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

According to the CPCB, an AQI between zero and 50 is considered 'good', 51 and 100 'satisfactory', 101 and 200 'moderate', 201 and 300 'poor', 301 and 400 'very poor', and 401 and 500 'severe'.

Andhra Pradesh Woman Tied to Tree Over Loan Dispute, 5 Arrested

NARAYANAPURAM (ANDHRA PRADESH), JUNE 17: A woman was allegedly tied to a tree and publicly humiliated by villagers in Narayanapuram of Chittoor district, following a dispute over unpaid loans, said police on Monday.

Sirisha (29), wife of Thimmarayappa had returned from Bengaluru on Monday to collect her children's Transfer Certificates (TC) from their school when locals confronted her about the money borrowed by her husband.

"Sirisha was allegedly tied to a tree by the locals and was asked to call her hus-

band to repay the money and her daughter hit a local which escalated the situation," Kuppam DSP B Parthasarathi told PTI. According to police, the couple owed around Rs 80,000 to a villager named Munikanappa and also some unspecified amount to local organisations.

A case was registered under BNS sections 115, 126, and 112 read with section 3 and police took five people into custody over the incident. Sirisha told the police that her husband allegedly abandoned her six months ago in Bengaluru although investigators suspect that

they may still be in touch regarding financial matters.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, who represents the Kuppam assembly constituency, condemned the atrocity and ordered strict action against the culprits. Naidu took details from the district Superintendent of Police and directed officials to provide full support to the victim's family.

"Strict action be taken against those involved in the inhuman treatment of a woman in Narayanapuram village of Kuppam mandal," said Naidu in an official release, adding that the

woman was allegedly tied to a tree and humiliated because her husband, Thimmarayappa, failed to repay loans he had taken from the villagers.

Naidu instructed police to organise legal awareness drives in rural villages and said the public must rely on the law and refrain from vigilante justice. He also stressed the need for basic legal education in every village.

The CM reiterated that his government 'would not allow such incidents' to take place and urged the police to take firm preventive measures in all regions.

Ahmedabad plane crash: 162 victims identified, 120 bodies handed over to kin

AHMEDABAD, JUNE 17: Five days after an Air India plane crash in Ahmedabad claimed 270 lives, 162 victims have so far been identified through DNA matching and 120 bodies handed over to their families, a Gujarat minister said on Tuesday.

Authorities are carrying out DNA tests to establish the identity of the victims as many bodies were charred beyond recognition or badly damaged in the deadly June 12 crash.

"Till 3.30 pm on Tuesday, DNA samples of 162 crash victims had been successfully matched, and 120 bodies handed over to the respective families. Remaining mortal remains will be released soon (after identification)," Gujarat Minister of State for Home Harsh Sanghavi said in a statement.

Medical Superintendent of Ahmedabad Civil Hospital Rakesh Joshi earlier expressed hope that the DNA profiling of all the victims will be completed by either Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning.

The state government had



earlier stated that samples of 250 victims, including persons on board the ill-fated flight as well as those killed on the ground, had been collected for identification.

The process involves comparing DNA profiles from deceased victims with those of their family members to identify the deceased. This process is crucial when bod-

ies are severely damaged or charred beyond recognition. DNA samples are collected from both the deceased and family members and matched to identify the deceased through scientific techniques.

The Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner with 242 persons on board crashed into a medical college complex in Ahmed-

abad moments after taking off from the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport at 1.39 pm on June 12.

While 241 persons on board the London-bound aircraft died, one passenger miraculously survived. The crash also killed 29 persons on the ground, including five MBBS students.

Air India's Ahmedabad-London flight cancelled due to 'operational issues'

AHMEDABAD, JUNE 17: Air India's flight to London from Ahmedabad, which has started operating with a new code post-June 12 crash of AI-171 plane, was cancelled on Tuesday due to "operational issues", an airport official said.

The Air India's official website confirmed that the AI-159 flight from Ahmedabad to the Gatwick airport in London stands cancelled after being rescheduled. The plane was scheduled to depart at 3 pm from the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport (SVPIA).

"We have been informed that the flight has been cancelled due to operational issues. The original flight from Ahmedabad to London, having code AI-171, resumed operation from Monday with a new flight code AI-159," said the airport official. The official did not elaborate on "operational issues" that caused the flight cancellation.

AI's direct flight from Ahmedabad to London was earlier known by its assigned code 'AI-171'. However, airport sources said the flight having code AI-171 was sus-



pended after the horrific crash which claimed 270 lives, including 29 people on the ground.

London-bound Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner with 242 passengers and crew members on board crashed into a medical college complex in Ahmedabad moments after taking off from the airport at 1.39 pm on June 12.

While 241 persons on board the aircraft died, one

passenger miraculously survived. "After the crash, the airline had suspended the flights from Ahmedabad to London. The airline resumed the service on Monday (June 16), but with a new flight code, AI-159," said the official. He said the return flight, having code AI-160, landed at SVPIA on Tuesday afternoon as per schedule.

As per the AI website, the first flight to London with the

new code took off from Ahmedabad at 4:10 pm on Monday after a three-hour delay. The flight landed at Gatwick at 9:45pm on Monday.

However, the second flight, which was supposed to take off at 1:10 pm on Tuesday, was rescheduled to leave at 3 pm, but was eventually cancelled, said the website without assigning any reason for the cancellation.

Indian students moved out of Tehran for safety reasons: MEA

NEW DELHI, JUNE 17: Amid escalating tensions between Israel and Iran, Indian students in Tehran have been moved out of the city for reasons of safety, through arrangements made by the Embassy, the Ministry of External Affairs said on Tuesday.

The MEA, in a statement said, the Indian Embassy remains continuously in touch with the community with a view to extending all feasible assistance.

"Indian students in Tehran have been moved out of the city for reasons of safety, through arrangements made by the Embassy," it said.

Other residents who are self-sufficient in terms of transport have also been advised to move out of the city in view of the developing situation, it said.

Separately, some Indians have been facilitated to leave Iran through the border with Armenia, the MEA said.

Further advisories may be issued given the fluid situation, it said.

In a post on X, the Indian



Embassy in Iran said, "All Indian Nationals and PIOs who can move out of Tehran using their own resources, are advised to move to a safe location outside the city."

In another statement, the MEA said a 24x7 control room has been established in Ministry of External Affairs in view of the ongoing developments in Iran and

Israel. The contact details of the control room are as under: 1800118797 (Toll free) +91-11-23012113 +91-11-23014104 +91-11-23017905 +91-9968291988 (WhatsApp) situationroom@mea.gov.in. In addition, the Embassy of India in Tehran has set up a 24x7 emergency helpline,

the MEA said and shared contact details.

"For calls only: +98 9128109115, +98 9128109109; For WhatsApp: +98 901044557, +98 9015993320, +91 8086871709; Bandar Abbas: +98 9177699036; Zاهدان: +98 9396356649; cons.Tehran@mea.gov.in (email)," it said.