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Capital on orange alert, expect heavy rain for two days

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Moderate to heavy rain is likely to occur on Thursday and Friday in the national capital. An orange alert has been issued by the meteorological department.

India Meteorological Department (IMD) had initially placed the orange alert for Wednesday as well. However, officials later said only light rain would occur, primarily during the night and an-

nounced a green alert for the day. The orange alert is already in place for most parts of northern India, with the monsoon trough, which had earlier shifted southward, changing its direction again. "There has been a shift in the monsoon trough but it could not reach close to NCR like it was earlier forecast. This shift will, however, occur by the early hours of Thursday and two to three spells of moderate rain may occur. Heavy rain is also likely

to occur at places on both Thursday and Friday," said a Met official.

Long-term forecast shows rain will continue till the end of the month, but the intensity is likely to reduce from Saturday onwards.

After a promising period in the middle of the month, when Delhi recorded two "heavy" rain days and a "very heavy" rain day too, Safdarjung, Delhi's base station, has received very little rain over the last few days and

sits at a slight deficit of 4% for the month. The Lodhi road observatory also has a deficit of 3%, while Palam is in excess by 16% this month. Ayanagar, which had recorded the first "very heavy" rainfall day of this season so far, has received maximum rain in this month.

Delhi recorded no rain till Wednesday evening, with the maximum temperature recorded at 34.2 degrees Celsius - one deg-

ree above normal for this time of the season. The relative humidity, meanwhile, oscillated between 63 and 85%. Thursday's forecast shows one to two spells of moderate rain are likely to occur, with heavy rain at isolated places.

The air quality index in the capital on Wednesday was recorded at 57 (satisfactory range). A spell of rain over the next two days is likely to clean the capital's air further.

The Tribune - 27/08/2020

Rain wreaks havoc in Jammu, 3 killed

Bridges, roads damaged; 'jhuggis' washed away in flashfloods; cattle perish

ARTEEV SHARMA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 26

Three persons were today killed in separate rain-related incidents across Jammu region, while several houses, bridges and roads were damaged in heavy rain and flashfloods in the past 24 hours.

A 35-year-old man, along with his cattle, was killed after the cattle shed collapsed in the Manjakote area of Rajouri district. The deceased was identified as Mohammad Shokit, a resident of Kaller Mora Mendhar, who was currently residing in Gola Nari, Kotli Kalaban, in Manjakote tehsil of Rajouri. His body was later retrieved from the debris by locals.

In Udhampur, Hamid Mohammad, a resident of Parand Moungr, died due to lightning in the Sapore area. "Another man died in a related incident in Mahore area. Our teams are on the job to retrieve the body," Reasi Deputy Commissioner Indu Kanwal Chib told *The Tribune*.

Chib said several dhoks (temporary shelters) of

nomads in upper reaches had been damaged in heavy rain, while some cattle also perished. "A house also collapsed in Katra area," the DC said.

In Poonch, a Tata Sumo was stuck in a flashflood at a culvert in Chatral river in Mendhar subdivision. Locals raised an alarm and rescued the passengers and the driver from the flooded river.

Reports from Rajouri also claimed that water level increased in the Suktoh and Darhali rivers. It caused damage to several "kucha" houses and roads in the district. A footbridge was also damaged. "We are still assessing the losses," said Rajouri Additional Deputy Commissioner Thakur Sher Singh.

In Kathua, at least 13 resi-

dential houses were partially damaged following a landslide in Basohli area, while 15 nomads were rescued along with their livestock after flashflood in the Ujh river.

In Jammu city, several "jhuggis" were washed away after a flashflood in a nullah in Narwal area. A retaining wall was also damaged near yard num-

ber 7 of Transport Nagar.

An important bridge over the Balole nullah connecting Digiana area with Bishnah was also washed away in flashfloods, snapping road connectivity to several villages. Several areas in Jammu city were inundated in floodwater after several nullahs breached the protection walls.



NH closed for 2nd day

■ The Jammu-Srinagar national highway remained closed at Dalwas for the second day on Wednesday as heavy rain triggered fresh landslides at different places.

■ "The restoration work has been stalled. It will resume only after rain stops. The falling stones in the vulnerable Panthial area is another major problem for clearance of road for traffic," said PK Phonsa, Project Director, NHAI, Ramban.

◀ A house damaged due to heavy rain at the Kalka colony in Jammu on Wednesday. PTI

The Tribune - 27/08/2020

Washed away



REUTERS

Three persons were killed, and several houses, bridges and roads damaged as heavy rain lashed Jammu region on Wednesday.

A bridge over Balole nullah connecting Digiana area with Bishnah was washed away in flashfloods, snapping road connectivity to many villages.

The Jammu-Srinagar National Highway remained closed for the second day as heavy rain triggered fresh landslides at various places.

Bridges swept away, villages cut off

ANSHUMAN PHADIKAR

Tamluk: Twelve bamboo bridges over the Kangsabati river for a stretch of 15km in East Midnapore have been washed away because of rising water level and discharge of water from a barrage at Mukutmanipur in Bankura.

Around 50,000 residents of at least 100 villages on one side of the river now can't access Panskura and Serampore on the other side following the destruction of the bridges last week.

A wooden bridge connecting East Midnapore and West Midnapore over the Keleghai was also washed away last week. The bridge was at Sabang in West Midnapore. All political parties have appealed to the state government to build a new concrete bridge.

Both the Kangsabati and the Keleghai had risen because of heavy rainfall triggered by a low pressure in Bay of Bengal.



A damaged bamboo bridge over the Kangsabati at Domaghat in East Midnapore. (Jahangir Badsa)

The villages cut off from the Panskura and Serampore towns include Prajabar, Saraighat, Raisahar, Paobanki, Domaghat, Maguri, Uttarsai and Konchoki.

Sources said East Midnapore district administration officials had provided canoes to the affected people to cross the Kangsabati while the bridges were being repaired, but the residents said still, it would take long time for commute.

"We have to either wait for boats now or take 10-15km long detour on foot," said one villager, referring to three concrete bridges near Serampore, Panskura and Harnarayan Chowk.

"Besides, we have to trek through a lot of muck because our side of the river is not very developed," he added.