

Rain snarls up Delhi traffic, cools northern India

It took about two minutes Monday morning for the overcast sky to turn thundery black above the capital. The full-scale storm that followed turned roads into rivulets and snarled up traffic everywhere, something drearily familiar now. The recompense was a refreshingly cool day once the storm passed.

The unusual wet spell continued all over north India. The weatherman has predicted squalls and thundershowers in Haryana, western Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Delhi and adjoining areas until Thursday.

There is a new 'cyclonic condition' sitting on top of Haryana and pulling in moisture-laden air from the Arabian Sea, the weather office said Monday. That is what is bringing the unseasonal rain.

Monday's maximum temperature in the capital was 33.4 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 24.5 degrees.

Meanwhile, the south-west monsoon advanced further up the Bay of Bengal. As a result, West Bengal, Orissa and the north-eastern states are likely to receive widespread pre-monsoon rainfall.

A strong wind system that has developed over southern Arabian Sea is also likely to cause widespread rainfall in Lakshadweep, coastal Karnataka and Kerala.

In central India, rain and thundershowers are likely in parts of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh.

The following were the maximum and minimum temperatures and rainfall figure in major cities for the 24 hours till Monday evening, with figures in brackets denoting deviations from the average:

City Maximum Temperature Minimum Temperature Rainfall

(C) (C) (mm)

New Delhi 35.8 (-5) 24.5 (-3) Nil

Mumbai 34.7 (+2) 28.1 (+2) Nil

Chennai 37.4 (0) 27.6 (0) Nil

Kolkata 33.6 (-2) 27.0 (0) Nil

Ahmedabad 42.0 (+2) 26.9 (0) Nil

Bangalore 31.9 (0) 20.9 (0) 1.0

Bhopal 41.2 (0) 27.7 (+2) Nil

Bhubaneswar 37.1 (-1) 24.5 (-3) 40.0

Chandigarh 32.0 (-7) 16.4 (-8) 2.4

Dehradun 30.4 (-6) 17.0 (-5) 5.4

Goa 34.3 (+1) 25.9 (-1) Nil

Guwahati 33.4 (+2) 24.5 (+1) Nil

Hyderabad 40.5 (+3) 28.0 (+2) TRACE

Jaipur 40.7 (+1) 27.0 (+1) Nil

Lucknow 34.8 (-5) 24.8 (0) Nil

Nagpur 41.1 (-1) 26.0 (-2) Nil

Patna 35.0 (-4) 24.3 (-3) 32.2

Pune 38.1 (+2) 24.5 (+2) Nil

Srinagar 22.6 (-3) 12.8 (+1) 3.8

Thiruvananthapuram 32.7 (+1) 24.5 (0) 5.8

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