

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy to very heavy rain likely at isolated places Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal.

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	29.4	18.4		Kozhikode	21.2	33.4	25.0
Ahmedabad	31.6	16.2		Kurnool		33.4	24.6
Aizawl	99.0			Lucknow	27.3	14.0	
Allahabad	31.4	14.6		Madurai		34.0	24.0
Bengaluru	29.4	19.8		Mangaluru	36.7	24.6	
Bhopal	28.3	13.8		Mumbai	34.2	24.0	
Bhubaneswar	31.0	18.9		Mysuru	30.0	19.0	
Chandigarh	25.7	11.8		New Delhi	27.1	12.3	
Chennai	32.4	25.3		Patna	28.7	14.2	
Coimbatore	31.4	22.7		Port Blair	31.2	24.0	
Dehradun	26.6	11.3		Puducherry	32.8	23.2	
Gangtok	16.1	12.4		Pune	30.1	15.3	
Goa	35.4	24.5		Raipur	30.5	17.8	
Guwahati	29.7	18.2		Ranchi	27.6	13.2	
Hubballi	29.0	21.0		Shillong	18.0	8.5	
Hyderabad	31.7	20.2		Shimla	00.0	00.0	
Imphal	26.3	12.2		Srinagar	18.8	8.6	
Kolkata	31.0	24.4		Thiruvananthapuram	0.2	31.6	24.8
Kochi	28.4	15.4		Tiruchi	1.2	33.6	24.6
Kohima	20.4			Vijayawada		32.5	24.0
Kolkata	29.8	20.2		Visakhapatnam	31.8	24.6	

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO ₂	NO ₂	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	124	142	06	107	87	Good
Bengaluru	13	78	81	52	52	Good
Chennai	03	09	54	67	67	Good
Delhi	113	68	306	278	278	Poor
Hyderabad	12	45	39	245	245	Moderate
Kolkata	08	91	22	280	218	Poor
Lucknow	24	40	39	121	121	Moderate
Mumbai	06	48	35	243	144	Moderate
Pune	76	12	57	205	141	Moderate
Visakhapatnam	11	30	40	123	123	Moderate

Air Quality Code: ■ Poor ■ Moderate ■ Good (Readings indicate average AQI)
SO₂: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.
NO₂: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.
CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.
PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

'53 road crashes, 17 deaths per hour in 2018'

Over-speeding is a major killer, followed by driving on the wrong side, says annual government report

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

More than 1.5 lakh people lost their lives in road crashes in the country in 2018, registering an increase of 2.4% as compared to the year before, when there were 1.47 lakh fatalities.

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways released the annual report on road accidents in India on Tuesday, which shows a daily average of 1,280 road crashes and 415 deaths. This translates into 53 crashes and the loss of 17 lives every hour. Road traffic injuries constitute the eighth leading cause of deaths in India in 2018.

India is the most unsafe country in the world for road users across 199 countries, as reported by the Geneva-

based World Road Federation's World Road Statistics 2018. It's followed by China (63,000 deaths) and the U.S. (37,000 deaths).

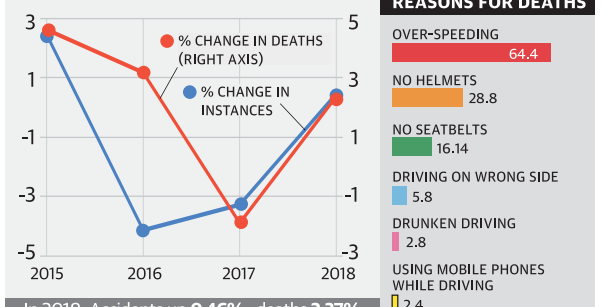
The annual report also reveals that of the total people killed in road crash deaths in 2018, 48% were between 18 years and 35 years old. Minors involved in road crash deaths were at 6.6% of the total deaths.

Over-speeding

Over-speeding is a major killer, accounting for 64.4% of the persons killed. This category was followed by driving on the wrong side of the road, which accounted for 5.8% of the accident related deaths. Use of mobile phones accounted for 2.4% of the deaths and drunken driving accounted for 2.8%

Speed hazards

Instances of road accidents and deaths increased in 2018 compared to 2017. Over-speeding was the reason for the maximum road-accident fatalities



In 2018: Accidents up 0.46%, deaths 2.37%

of the persons killed. Not wearing helmets and seat belts are not causes of crashes, but are critical for avoiding grievous injuries and fatalities. As many as 43,614 deaths or 28.8% of total road accident deaths in the country last year were caused due to "non-wearing of helmets". "Non-wearing of seat belts" was linked to 24,435 deaths or 16.1% of total road accident deaths in the country. Among the States, Tamil Nadu (13.7%)

SC recommends permanent commission for women in Army

Court urges the Centre to expand the ambit of benefit

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said the armed forces should consider granting permanent commission to women officers under the Short Service Commission (SSC) before March 2019.

The Army had notified permanent commission to women officers, who join the forces under SSC, after March 2019.

'Retrospective effect'

The court asked the Centre to look at the positive side of granting permanent com-



mission to women officers with retrospective effect, and expand the ambit of the benefit to those serving under SSC before March 2019. "It will show India in a dif-

Puducherry CM lashes out at Bedi

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PUDUCHERRY

Referring to Lieutenant Governor Kiran Bedi as "sister to Adolf Hitler," Puducherry Chief Minister V. Narayanasamy lashed out against Ms. Bedi for "arm-twisting" officials to work in her favour.

Speaking at the birth anniversary function of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi at the PCC office on Tuesday, the Chief Minister al-

leged that the Lt. Governor was functioning in an authoritative manner. "No other Lt. Governor or Governor is as obstructionist as Ms. Bedi. She is like Hitler's sister," he said.

The officials were being threatened to toe her line and take orders from Raj Nivas, Mr. Narayanasamy claimed. "I feel sympathy for the officials," he said.

IN BRIEF



Police force to be modernised: Minister

CHANDIGARH
The Haryana Police will be modernised to effectively tackle the menace of drugs, trafficking and other criminal activities, State Home Minister Anil Vij said on Tuesday. He was launching 'Operation Prahar' against drug abuse in the State.

ED attaches assets in NH-74 corruption case

NEW DELHI
The Enforcement Directorate has provisionally attached 36 immovable properties and cash deposits in 11 bank accounts in connection with the alleged ₹215-crore corruption in the National Highway-74 widening project.

Hearing in Maratha quota case posted for next year

NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court on Tuesday posted for January 22 next year the hearing on a batch of pleas challenging the constitutional validity of a Maharashtra law granting reservation for Marathas in education and jobs in the State.

Turkish nationals part of ATM heists nabbed

AGARTALA
The Kolkata police on Tuesday arrested four persons — two Turkish nationals and two Bangladeshis — in connection with ATM heists in Tripura. The Turkish nationals were also accused of tampering with ATMs in Assam.

Congress sweeps municipal elections in Rajasthan

The party dominated in most of the 49 civic bodies

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
JAIPUR

The ruling Congress swept the municipal elections in Rajasthan on Tuesday, winning 965 of the 2,105 wards in 49 urban local bodies, for which polling was held on Saturday.

The BJP trailed behind with 736 wards.

The Congress dominated in most of the 49 civic bodies, situated in 24 districts.

The results declared by the State Election Commission showed 385 independent candidates emerging victorious. The Bahujan Samaj Party's candidates won in 16 wards, while the Communist Party of India (Mar-

xist) contestants won at three places.

The civic bodies which went to polls included three municipal corporations, 18 municipal councils and 28 municipalities. The Congress got clear majority in 20 local bodies, while the BJP's majority was confined to six civic bodies.

Desperate villagers pool money to make their voice heard

Day 4 of sit-in by Sardar Sarovar project-affected persons

SIDHARTH YADAV
BHOPAL

Kusum Adivasi, an agricultural labourer, has found herself at the same protest as her former employer, Sashikala Patidar. Back in Nisarpur, the two lived miles apart. But in the past three days here, they've slept beside each other on the street, shared meals and even cried in unison: *Medha tai aaghe badho, hum tumhare saath hai* (Medha aunt stride ahead, we're with you).

While Ms. Patidar lost two acres of fields, a pucca house and three goats to the swelling backwaters of the Narmada, her labourer for two years lost her livelihood. Cooped up at the same relief camp now, in Dhar district, the two set out to hunt for work together ev-



Activist Medha Patkar along with the villagers protesting in Bhopal, on Sunday. *PTI

ery morning. On Day 4 of the sit-in by 1,200 Sardar Sarovar project-affected persons outside the office of the Narmada Valley Development Authority on Tuesday, the two and 100 others from Nisarpur tehsil, nominated by village elders to represent them, spelt out issues confronting their communities: incomplete rehabilitation, inadequate compensation and food crisis at relief

camps. Just to make sure their voice is heard, villagers from Kotda, Koteshwar, Karondiya and Katnera in the tehsil pooled in travelling fare for their representatives.

"Since there is no work, we don't have money to travel to even Indore, 170 km away," says Lakshminarayan Patidar, of Nisarpur. "So, those back home decided to support us for one-way travel for the sit-in." Each paid ₹130 for the bus travel to Indore, from where they boarded a train to reach Bhopal, free on request to the Railways. Besides, a truck from Barwani carried wheat and rice, gas cylinders, stoves, first-aid kits, tents, computers, microphone systems and flags — all donated by villagers.