

Garden City loses 206 trees as strong rain and winds wreak havoc

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THE HINDU BUREAU





A man with his stalled vehicle wades through a flooded road during heavy rainfall in Bengaluru on Sunday. | Photo Credit: AFP

“Today, due to heavy rains, we have had flooding at 58 locations and tree falls at 39 locations on important arterial roads of Bengaluru. Congestion is high,” said M.N. Anucheth, Joint Commission of Police (Traffic), Bengaluru.

Outer Ring Road, K.R. Puram, Hoodi, Airport Road, Hebbal, BTM Layout, Hosur Road, Koramangala, K.R. Puram, R.T. Nagar and Yeshwantpur were among the areas worst affected.

A massive tree fell on Hosur Main Road near Christ (Deemed to be University), leading to a road block and subsequent traffic jam. The incident caused over 20 BMTC buses to be stuck on the road, and multiple private vehicles were forced to reroute.

Commuters expressed their frustration with the recurring issue. A BMTC driver caught in the jam commented, “The road has been jammed for over an hour, and the passengers are facing a lot of trouble since they had to get off the buses and walk. This is a common occurrence every monsoon season. Bus drivers cannot do anything about it as large vehicles cannot reverse.”

A flash of lightning captured at Banashankari 3rd stage on Sunday. | Photo Credit: K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

Underpasses inundated

In Seshadripuram, a bus going towards Majestic was stuck after an underpass was highly inundated. BBMP also barricaded the K.R. Circle underpass after it was flooded beyond safe levels for vehicles.

Across the city, many drivers said visibility was severely affected due to the heavy rainfall. “I could not see the vehicle in front of me if not for the hazard lights everyone on the road had turned on at around 6.30 p.m. Most of us parked our vehicles and waited for rain to subside,” said Nikhil S., who was commuting on Tumakuru Road.

In addition, there were reports of 10 bikes being damaged near Hulimavu after a tree fell on them, and many cars were damaged in Jayanagar, Basavanagudi, and Banashankari.

The weather also caused many electrical feeders to trip and other infrastructure damage, resulting in hours-long power cuts in various parts of the city, including Jayanagar, HSR Layout, and Whitefield. On June 1, 21 electric poles were broken in Bescom jurisdiction, while 39 lines were damaged after trees fell on them.

110.7 mm rainfall

According to data provided by the India Meteorological Department, from 8.30 a.m. Bengaluru city recorded 110.7 mm rainfall and the HAL station recorded 46.5 mm ra

An orange alert was issued for isolated heavy rainfall with gusty winds up to 40 to 50 km per hour in Bengaluru Urban and Bengaluru Rural districts between 10 p.m on Sunday and 1 a.m. on Monday.

The weatherman has predicted generally cloudy skies with light to moderate thundershowers in Bengaluru until June 6.

Meanwhile, Deputy Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar said that all precautions had been taken to ensure that there is no major damage in Bengaluru due to heavy rainfall. “Along with the monitoring of the water flow in stormwater drains, measures have been taken to ensure there is no waterlogging on roads. While I was on my way to a meeting, even I noticed that there was water up to three to four feet on the roads. The control room is active, and I will conduct inspections all night long,” he said.