

Death toll in earthquakes rises to 311

THE INDEPENDENT & AGENCIES
Kabul/Peshawar; 27 October

The death toll in the earthquakes that hit Afghanistan and Pakistan early morning yesterday has risen to 311. Rescuers in Pakistan braved tough terrain to deliver aid to people living in Taliban insurgency-hit areas like Khyber Pakhtunkhwa that have been rocked by the powerful 7.5 magnitude quake.

The death toll in the quake – the strongest in 10 years – in Pakistan has now risen to 250 from the earlier figure of 228 which included 214 dead in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and Federally Administered Tribal Areas



(FATA), 5 in Punjab, and 9 in PoK, local media reports said. KP and FATA were most seriously affected as the powerful earthquake rocked Pakistan and the region yesterday causing at least 250 deaths, Geo News reported.

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) said at least 1,620 people have been injured across Pakistan.

“Till this morning, 185 people have died and 1,456 including women and children sustained injuries in KP as several are in critical condition,” said an official of the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA).

He said PDMA has constituted seven teams to visit the affected districts for rapid need assessment and to supervise relief activities on grounds.

Over 2,000 tents, blankets and floor mats have been dispatched to the affected districts besides 1,000 food packets for the worst-affected Chitral district. The official said Chitral, Swat, Shangla, Dir Upper and Lower and Toarghar districts are the

most affected districts where infrastructure and houses were damaged on a large scale.

He said rescue and relief operations in the affected districts are continuing as civil administration, police, health and revenue authorities are participating in the relief operations besides army personnel.

The military said 27 of 45 landslides have been cleared on the strategic Karakoram highway.

UN agencies are mobilising and stand ready to support relief operations in Pakistan and Afghanistan, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said.

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Quake death toll crosses 375 mark

STRUGGLING

Afghan authorities have been finding it difficult to access the hardest-hit areas near the epicentre

We believe the exact numbers are much higher because not all people bring the bodies to hospitals. And there are still areas we don't have access to so we are not aware of the situation there.

QAMERUDDIN SEDIQI, adviser to the public health minister

Rescuers were struggling to reach quakestricken regions in Pakistan and Afghanistan on Tuesday as officials said the combined death toll from the previous day's earthquake rose to over 375.

According to Afghan and Pakistani officials, over 250 people died in Pakistan and close to 100 in Afghanistan in the magnitude-7.5 quake, which was centered deep beneath the Hindu Kush mountains in Afghanistan's sparsely populated Badakhshan province that borders Pakistan, Tajikistan and China. Three people also died in Kashmir.

Afghan authorities were scrambling to access the hardest-hit areas near the epicenter, located 73 kilometres south of Fayzabad, the capital of Badakhshan province. Teams on foot were sent to the most remote regions to assess damage and casualties, but air relief drops were not expected to begin for some days.

In Pakistan, the Swat Valley and areas around Dir, Malakand and Shangla towns in the mountains of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province were also hard-hit. Officials said 202 of the dead were killed in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The Pakistani town closest to the epicenter is Chitral, while on the Afghan side it is the Jurm district of Badakhshan.

More than 2,000 people were injured, which also damaged more than 4,000 homes in Pakistan, officials said.

In Afghanistan, Qameruddin Sediqi, an adviser to the public health minister confirmed 78 dead and 466 wounded, based on numbers reported by hospitals across the country.

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28 Oct 2015 | Hindustan Times (Delhi) | Agence France-Presse letters@hindustantimes.com

Taliban vow to help Afghans post-disaster

KABUL: The Taliban Tuesday urged charity organisations not to hold back in delivering aid to Afghan victims of a devastating earthquake, saying militants in the affected areas were ordered to provide "complete help".

Rescuers are battling to access some of the worst-affected areas across provinces that are effectively under militant control, a huge challenge to any official aid efforts.

But the Taliban on Tuesday promised to pave access for aid organisations.

"The Islamic Emirate (Taliban) calls on... charitable organisations to not hold back in providing shelter, food and medical supplies to the victims of this earthquake, the group said on its website.

"It similarly orders its Mujahideen in the affected areas to lend their complete help to the victims and facilitate those giving charity to the needy."

Afghan disaster management officials say areas around the quake's epicentre in the remote province of Badakhshan, as well as neighbouring provinces such as Takhar and Kunar, have suffered huge devastation.

Afghanistan's chief executive Abdullah Abdullah said an initial assessment shows around 4,000 houses have been damaged by the powerful quake.

The United Nations estimates that the Taliban's reach is the widest since 2001, with more than half of the districts across Afghanistan at risk.

The growing presence of Taliban fighters is hindering access of aid workers to earthquake victims in urgent need of help, the head of a Western charity said.

"We have no presence in the affected areas, limiting our chances of a fair assessment of the security situation on the ground," he said on condition of anonymity.

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हवा में नमी हुई ज्यादा, बारिश से बढ़ेगी ठंड

■ नगर संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली

दिल्ली में तापमान गिरना शुरू हो गया है। मंगलवार को मैक्सिमम टेम्परेचर 31.4 डिग्री दर्ज हुआ। वहीं मिनिमम टेम्परेचर नॉर्मल से एक डिग्री ज्यादा के साथ 18.5 डिग्री दर्ज

सेल्सियस से कम होना शुरू हो जाएगा। रात के समय हवा में नमी ज्यादा होगी और हल्की ठंड भी महसूस होगी। मिनिमम टेम्परेचर 17 डिग्री सेल्सियस के नीचे भी गिर सकता है। पहाड़ी इलाकों से लगातार ठंडी हवाएं मैदानी इलाकों की तरफ आ रही हैं। इस वजह से

हुआ। मौसम विभाग ने कहा कि बुधवार को आसमान में बादल छाए रह सकते हैं। बारिश होने की संभावना है। मैक्सिमम टेंपरेचर 30 डिग्री और मिनिमम टेंपरेचर 18 डिग्री रहने का अनुमान है।

मंगलवार को आसमान साफ रहा और धूप भी छाई।

मंगलवार सुबह आयानगर, लोदी रोड जैसे इलाकों में मिनिमम टेंपरेचर 18 डिग्री से कम दर्ज हुआ। वहीं मैक्सिमम ह्यूमिडिटी 85 पर्सेंट और मिनिमम ह्यूमिडिटी 44 पर्सेंट दर्ज हुई। मौसम वैज्ञानिकों ने कहा कि दिल्ली में मौसम का पैटर्न चेंज होना शुरू हो गया है। अब आने वाले दिनों में दिल्ली का तापमान 30 डिग्री

**दिल्ली
में मौसम का
पैटर्न चेंज होना
शुरू, अगले दो दिनों
तक हो सकती है
बारिश**

हरियाणा, राजस्थान और दिल्ली जैसे राज्यों पर रात के समय मौसम पर असर पड़ रहा है। इस हफ्ते ऐसा ही मौसम रहने की संभावना है। उत्तर भारत में वेस्टर्न डिस्टर्बेंस पहुंच चुका है। इससे दिल्ली और आस पास के इलाकों में बारिश होने की उम्मीद है। साथ ही राजस्थान

के आसपास चक्रवाती हवाओं के बनने की भी संभावना है। इन दोनों सिस्टम के बनने से मौसम में बदलाव होगा। अगले दो दिनों तक बारिश हो सकती है। आने वाले दिनों में दोपहर के वक्त उमस भरी गर्मी महसूस नहीं होगी। दोपहर के समय सामान्य तापमान रह सकता है।

QUAKE RIPOSTES: NOTES FROM HINDU KUSH

1 Apart from the main quake, at least 12 aftershocks were recorded, most of them mild in intensity. However, the most severe aftershock was recorded at 2:49pm PST and measured 5.3 on the Richter scale.

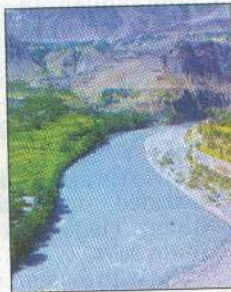
2 Within minutes of the earthquake, the US Geological Survey (USGS) estimated the quake's intensity at 7.7, then revised it down to 7.5 on the Richter scale.



3 After the quake, most cellular users in the central and northern parts of the country faced a lack of connectivity for up to one hour. However, officials from cellular service providers denied that there was a breakdown in connectivity.

4 The earthquake, a section of experts said on television had been a punishment for for the many sins Pakistan has committed

5 None of the serious discussions from 10 years ago in 2005, had been implemented. Agendas like disaster relief, institution or implementation of building codes or training of students and teachers in earthquake preparedness have not taken place. The aid dollars had come and patchy projects put in place to justify the money



4 जून - 28-10-15

पाक-अफगान में भूकंप : 350 से ज्यादा की मौत

इस्लामाबाद, (भाषा):

पाकिस्तान और अफगानिस्तान में 7.5 तीव्रता का भूकंप आने के एक दिन बाद 350 से ज्यादा लोगों के मरने की पुष्टि हो गई है। वहीं बचाव कर्मियों को पीड़ितों को राहत पहुंचाने में दिक्कत का सामना करना पड़ रहा है।

मीडिया रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि पिछले 10 साल में सबसे शक्तिशाली जलजले में पाकिस्तान में मरने वालों की पहले की संख्या 228 से 237 हो गई है, जिसमें खैबर पख्तूनख्वा और संघीय प्रशासित कबायली क्षेत्र (एफएटीए) में 214, पंजाब में पांच और पीओके में नौ लोगों की मौत शामिल है।

अमरीका के भूगर्भीय सर्वेक्षण (यूसजीएस) के मुताबिक, भूकंप का पहला झटका कल दोपहर को दो बजकर नौ मिनट पर आया और इसके बाद भूकंप के सात झटके आए, जिनकी अधिकतम तीव्रता 4.8 थी। राष्ट्रीय आपदा प्रबंधक प्राधिकरण (एनडीएमए) ने कहा कि समूचे पाकिस्तान में कम से कम 1,620 लोग जख्मी हुए हैं।

पाकिस्तानी मीडिया ने खबर दी है कि हजारों लोगों ने लगभग जमा देने वाली ठंड में खुले में रात बिताई

विभीषिका

बचाव कर्मियों को
पीड़ितों तक पहुंचने में
पेश आ रही हैं मुश्किलें

क्योंकि भूकंप बाद के झटकों के डर की वजह से वे वापस घरों में जाने के लिए इच्छुक नहीं थे। एक्सप्रेस न्यूज ने खबर दी है अफगानिस्तान में अबतक 90 से ज्यादा लोग मरे हैं और 350 जख्मी हैं तथा मरने वालों की संख्या में बढ़ौतरी का अंदेशा है। इस बीच प्रधानमंत्री नवाज शरीफ अमरीका की अपनी यात्रा के बाद इस्लामाबाद लौट आए।

जलजले के बाद उन्होंने राहत प्रयासों पर चर्चा करने के लिए एक बैठक बुलाई। पाकिस्तानी सेना के बचाव दल, भूकंप से संपत्ति को हुए नुकसान का आकलन कर रहे हैं। सेना ने कहा कि रणनीतिक तौर पर महत्वपूर्ण काराकोरम राजमार्ग पर 45 स्थानों पर हुए भूस्खलनों में से 27 को साफ कर दिया गया है। पूरे देश में संयुक्त सैन्य अस्पतालों की क्षमता भी 30 फीसदी बढ़ा दी गई है।

The Times of India

Title : Deadly heat forecast in Persian Gulf by 2100

Author : John Schwartz

Location :

Article Date : 10/28/2015

Conditions Would Be Intolerable For Humans, Exposure Will Result In Hyperthermia: Study

By the end of this century, areas of the Persian Gulf could be hit by waves of heat and humidity so severe that simply being outside for several hours could threaten human life, according to a new study.

Because of humanity's contribution to climate change, the authors wrote, some population centers in West Asia "are likely to experience temperature levels that are intolerable to humans." The dangerously muggy summer conditions predicted for places near the warm waters of the gulf could overwhelm the ability of the human body to reduce its temperature through sweating and ventilation. That threatens anyone without air-conditioning, including the poor, but also those who work outdoors in professions like agriculture and construction.

The paper, published in Nature Climate Change, was written by Jeremy S Pal of the department of civil engineering and environmental science at Loyola Marymount University and Elfatih A B Eltahir of Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Previous studies suggested that such conditions might be reached within 200 years. But the new research, which depends on climate models that focus on regional topography and conditions, foresees a shorter timeline.

The researchers resolve the old argument over whether the source of summer misery is the heat or the humidity by saying that it is both. They rely on a method of measuring atmospheric conditions known as wet-bulb temperature, which, while less well known and understood than the standard method of measuring temperatures, describes the extent to which evaporation and ventilation can reduce an object's temperature.

Since even today's heat waves cause premature deaths by the thousands, mainly affecting very young, elderly and infirm people, the more extreme conditions envisioned "would probably be intolerable even for the fittest of humans, resulting in hyperthermia" after six hours of exposure. As climate change causes temperatures to rise, it should come as no surprise that the warm-water coasts in West Asia could be the first to experience brutal combinations of heat and humidity.

The conditions would not be constant, but spikes would become increasingly common. NYT NEWS SERVICE



MERCURY RISING: Previous research suggested such conditions might be reached within 200 years