Record rain turns B'luru into water world, city put on alert

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Overnight torrential rain reduced one of Bengaluru's marquee tech corridors — Marathahalli-Sarjapur Outer Ring Road (ORR) — and Bellandur to a complete mess, causing inconvenience to tens of thousands of people in a stinging commentary on the civic apathy of the Karnataka government and the local municipal administration.

As per the IMD report on Tuesday, Bengaluru recorded its highest single-day rainfall in August in 24 hours — 162.1mm — since August 27, 1890. The department has issued a yellow (heavy rainfall) alert in Bengaluru Urban district for Wednesday and Thursday too.

Three lakes — Bellandur, Varthur and Nallurahalli — overflowed and around 400 cars parked in basements of

Residents use a boat after heavy rain lashed Bengaluru on Tuesday

apartments around Nallurahalli lake were submerged.

The rains left many key roads unmotorable. There was a five-hour traffic jam outside RmZ Ecospace in Bellandur, while lack of movement was described as the reason for the death of 85-year-old Srinivasan Ramarao. While it took about 20 minutes for Ramarao's family to bring him to the gate of their apartment, flooded roads caused a long delay in

the ambulance arriving.

While the late Monday evening announcement of school closures took many institutions by surprise, some were quick to announce online classes for higher grades.

Worried citizens made at least 15 calls to the fire and emergency department, which pressed 20 fire tenders into service in HSR Layout, BTM Layout, Bellandur, Sarjapur, Whitefield and surrounding areas.