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WEEKEND EDITION

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Heat threatens 4 continents this summer

86M PEOPLE ALREADY UNDER ALERTS IN US WHILE INDIA SEES 110 DEATHS

LONDON

Dangerous heatwaves are scorching cities on four continents as the Northern Hemisphere marks the first day of summer, a sign that climate change may again bring about record-breaking heat that could surpass last summer as the warmest in 2,000 years.

Countries around the Mediterranean have endured another week of blistering high temperatures that have contributed to forest fires from Portugal to Greece and along the northern coast of Africa in Algeria, according to the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Earth Observatory.

Parts of the US Northeast and Midwest are also wilting under a heat dome, with more than 86 million people under a heat alert yesterday, according to the National Weather Service. A heat dome occurs when a strong, high-pressure system traps hot air over a region, preventing cool air from getting in and causing ground temperatures to remain high.

In India, the health ministry said on Wednesday there were

KUWAIT CUTS POWER

Kuwait has announced temporary power cuts in some parts of the country during peak consumption hours, saying it is struggling to meet increased demand spurred by extreme summer heat. **FULL REPORT ON P11**

more than 40,000 suspected heatstroke cases and 110 confirmed deaths between March 1 and June 18

The heatwaves are occurring against a backdrop of 12 consecutive months that have ranked as the warmest on record in year-on-year comparisons, according to the European Union's climate change monitoring service.

The World Meteorological Organisation says there is an 86 per cent chance that one of the next five years will eclipse 2023 to become the warmest on record. Scientists say heatwaves will continue to intensify if the world continues to unleash climate-warming emissions from the burning of fossil fuels.

—AFP

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Victor Orban
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Georgia Meloni
Italy



Marine Le Pen
France



Santiago Abascal
Spain

Why right-wing leaders in Europe are wielding more power

From Austria, France and Italy to Germany, Spain and Sweden, their ascent to power reflects an underlying trend: a pushback against globalisation. As they gain more influence, these parties are reshaping Europe's political landscape, leading to increased polarisation. With a far right or nationalist party among the three most popular in nearly half of the EU countries, we look at their role in Europe's halls of power. —Jay Hilotin, Senior Assistant Editor



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Tensions between Israel and Hezbollah fuel fears of wider war | P11

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