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UAE REBOUNDS FROM RAIN DISRUPTION

LEADERS HAIL NATION'S **RESILIENCE AND AFFIRM SAFETY** OF ITS PEOPLE IS TOP PRIORITY

DUBAI

BY SHARMILA DHAL **UAE Editor**

resident His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan reaffirmed that the safety and security of citizens and residents is the top priority of the UAE government.

Shaikh Mohammad Bin Zayed directed the concerned authorities to quickly work on studying the condition of infrastructure throughout the UAE and to limit the damage caused after the country witnessed its heaviest rainfall on record.

His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, commended the nation's resilience in the face of the exceptional weather conditions experienced by the country recently.

A day after record-breaking rains hit the UAE, flooding roads and homes, residents woke up to a bright new morning yesterday, the golden sun in a clear blue sky signaling the start of a much-needed recovery. Although office-goers and students operated from home and disruptions in air, rail and road traffic continued for the second day, brisk efforts by the authorities to facilitate an early return to normality set the tone for the day.

End of weather fluctuations

Later in the evening, the Ministry of Interior, in coordination with the National Emergency, Crisis and Disaster Management Authority, the National Centre of Meteorology and strategic partners, announced the end of the weather fluctuations. Across the emirates, government departments worked in tandem to divert traffic from flooded roads, clear the waterlogged stretches and even evacuate people to safety from the badly affected areas. It will be a while before full recovery can be achieved, but the process was well under way.



Airports inching back to normal operations

21 flights from DXB had been diverted to Abu Dhabi airport

BY DHANUSHA GOKULAN Chief Reporter

espite recent adverse weather conditions, International Zaved Airport remains fully operational, airport authorities said in a statement.

Moreover, within the last 24 hours, 21 flights, including one freighter and the remaining passenger flights, were diverted from Dubai International Airport (DXB) to Zayed International Airport (AUH). UAE's flag carrier Etihad Airways also said flights are op-

erating as usual. Meanwhile, in Dubai, fly-

SPORT

dubai operations are also returning to normality. Dubai Airports (DXB) has advised passengers to only visit Terminal 1 if they have received confirmation from their airline regarding their flight departure. Several of Sharjahbased carrier Air Arabia's flights have also been cancelled or rescheduled, the airline confirmed in a statement.

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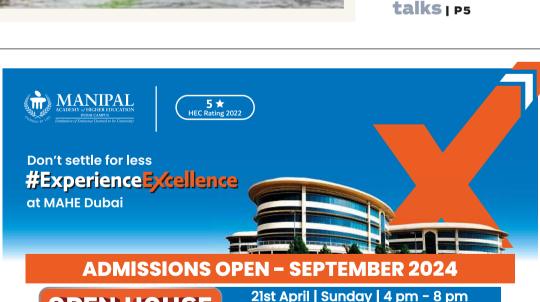
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