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## IMD Warns of Heavy Rain, Thunderstorms in Andhra Pradesh

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The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued an alert warning of heavy rainfall and thunderstorms for coastal Andhra Pradesh and Rayalaseema, which will remain in effect from August 4 to August 7. The advisory also notes the possibility of strong winds during the period, with speeds ranging from 30 to 50 km/h. Officials have cautioned that the combined impact of heavy rainfall, thunderstorms, lightning, and gusty winds may disrupt daily life and pose safety risks, especially in vulnerable areas.

According to the Meteorological Centre in Amaravati, the current weather conditions are being driven by an upper-air circulation over the southwest Bay of Bengal, situated off the north Tamil Nadu coast. This system is drawing moisture from the sea and is expected to cause widespread moderate to heavy rainfall in parts of Rayalaseema and southern coastal Andhra Pradesh. Thunderstorms accompanied by lightning are forecast across both the entire coastal belt and the Rayalaseema districts throughout the alert period.

For Monday, August 4, weather models indicate heavy rainfall is most likely over Rayalaseema, while the coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh may experience thunderstorms with lightning. Wind speeds in isolated coastal districts are forecast to reach 30-40 km/h, whereas Rayalaseema could experience stronger gusts of 40-50 km/h. These conditions may result in temporary flooding in low-lying areas, waterlogging in urban centers, and potential damage to weak structures or trees.

Between August 5 and August 7, the IMD expects heavy rainfall to persist over Rayalaseema and southern coastal Andhra Pradesh. Thunderstorms with lightning are anticipated in both regions during this time, with coastal districts facing winds of 30-40 km/h and parts of Rayalaseema seeing stronger gusts of 40-50 km/h at isolated locations. Such weather conditions could also disrupt transport services, affect agricultural activities, and increase the risk of landslides in hilly terrain.

Authorities have advised residents to remain alert, especially those living in flood-prone and low-lying zones. Fishermen have been strongly urged to avoid venturing into the sea during this period due to potentially hazardous marine conditions, including rough waves and strong currents. Travelers are advised to check local