

Two quakes of 7.2 and 7.5 magnitude struck northern Venezuela in a minute, causing widespread destruction

At least 164 killed, over 970 injured and thousands feared trapped as rescuers struggle to find survivors

Global outreach for rescue operations; Germany offers 6 military transport planes, others too pitch in

Race to find survivors continues beneath Venezuela's rubble

LA GUAIRA

DESPERATE Venezuelans battled Thursday to rescue loved ones trapped alive beneath the rubble of collapsed buildings after two major earthquakes that killed at least 164 people.

Buildings cracked and crumbled and residents fled into the streets after the quakes, which the United States Geological Survey measured as magnitude 7.2 and 7.5, hit northern Venezuela within a minute of each other. Offers of rescue support and aid flooded in from around the world as interim president Delcy Rodriguez reported at least 164 dead and over 970 hurt.

The state of La Guaira north of Caracas was hit particularly hard, and residents stumbled through debris calling out the names of loved ones or tried in vain to rescue the injured.

"There's a spot where a young woman named Jennifer, from the 11th floor, answers me. However, we don't have any tools; we have no way to help," said Antonio Bermudez, whose building collapsed in La Guaira. Elsewhere in the rubble, a father and his son were using a pickaxe and a crowbar to try and pry away massive slabs to get to two of his other sons, said Bermudez.

"They're still alive... there's nothing more we can do. We're telling them not to strain their voices, to take short breaths, in the hope that at least the three of them who are there will be rescued." The coastal city was without electricity, and many residents spent the night in the



People stand before a damaged apartment building following the earthquake in Catia La Mar, La Guaira state, about 30 km northwest of Caracas; (inset) residents react as they mourn the death of a relative near the damaged building | AFP

streets or searching for their relatives, according to AFP reporters. The strongest quake to hit Venezuela in 126 years will require "massive collective efforts," the United Nation's aid chief Tom Fletcher said in a statement. He said the UN was "fully mobilised" to send aid. Threatening to complicate relief efforts, the international airport near Caracas was closed due to "serious damage," Rodriguez said.

Colombia, Brazil jolted

The quake was felt as far away as the Colombian capital of Bogota, where alarms sounded and some residents evacuated buildings as a precaution.

Freddy Tovar, coordinator of

Colombia's National Seismological Network, said authorities had received more than 200 reports of tremors nationwide. Tremors were also reported in several cities in northern Brazil, according to the country's seismic monitoring network.

Global aid pours in

Countries worldwide rushed aid to earthquake-hit Venezuela, sending rescue teams, medical personnel and supplies. Spain, France, Germany, Switzerland and others deployed specialists, while the IFRC released \$2.5 million. The US, China and several Latin American nations also pledged assistance and support for rescue and recovery efforts. AFP



Rubio pledges full earthquake response

WASHINGTON: US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said Washington would mount a "whole-of-government" response to Venezuela's devastating earthquakes. He said the military would transport rescue teams and supplies. Rubio said the priority was saving people trapped beneath the rubble, adding the US would respond "big, fast and effective".



View of a collapsed building following an earthquake in Caracas | AFP

'The stairs came away, the whole wall cracked'

CATIA LA MAR

"ANTONIO, it's your mom, I'm right here," a mother's desperate cries bounced off the rubble of a 22-story building in Caracas that collapsed following two powerful earthquakes in Venezuela on Wednesday.

Neighbours looked on helplessly at the home's remains as one of them clambered over the debris, listening for responses but hearing only silence. "We need flashlights," said one of the improvised volunteers, with just one police officer accompanying the group as they waited for rescue workers to arrive.

"Tania, Tania," another name echoed around the devastated site, part of the Petunia residential complex in the well-to-do Los Palos Grandes neighbourhood that normally bustles with restaurants and cafes. One man wept quietly in the street.

The twin quakes of magnitude 7.2 and 7.5, according to the US Geological Survey, reduced buildings to rubble across

parts of Caracas, forcing residents into the streets. Authorities said the states of Trujillo, Carabobo, Miranda and La Guaira were among the worst hit. Just a few blocks away, people emerging from a shopping centre were still in shock.

"The stairs came away, the whole wall cracked. Things fell from the ceiling. It was horrible," said 54-year-old bank employee Odalis Escalona. Zenia Gonzalez, 52, comforted a teenage girl still in tears. "We waited for it to pass and then ran down the escalator," Gonzalez told AFP. "We had to wait because it was shaking too much. It lasted a long time," she added. Panicked screams filled the air as people scrambled out of the building. In the nearby neighbourhood of La Castellana, Maria Romero also fled her apartment in a hurry.

"It was moving a lot and sounded like a deep roar," the 48-year-old engineer told AFP. "For a second I thought about getting under the table, but I decided to get out," she said. AFP

Ship hit as Iran warns against unauthorised Hormuz passing

Senate rejects Iran war measure

WASHINGTON: US Senate Republicans late Wednesday rejected a war powers resolution aimed at blocking President Donald Trump's war in Iran, hours after Trump berated GOP lawmakers over their earlier support for a similar measure. The resolution failed 47-50, with Senator Bill Cassidy reversing his previous vote after a White House briefing. Trump welcomed the outcome, while Senate Majority Leader John Thune said the president was "pleased". The measure was largely symbolic and does not carry the force of law.

China backs Pak's Iran mediation

ISLAMABAD: Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi has pledged "unwavering support" for Pakistan's mediation between the US and Iran, praising Islamabad's efforts to promote peace, Pakistan's foreign office said. During a call with Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, Wang reaffirmed support for a negotiated settlement. Pakistan also said US-Iran talks were expected to resume next week.

DUBAI

A cargo ship travelling through the Strait of Hormuz on a United Nations-approved route was hit by a projectile on Thursday, the British military said. The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) said there were no casualties or environmental impact.

The attack came hours after Iran's Revolutionary Guards warned against any crossings of the Strait of Hormuz without Tehran's authorisation, saying vessels not complying "will be dealt with".

IRG warning

"The only authorised route for passage through the Strait of Hormuz is the route announced by the Islamic Republic of Iran," the Revolutionary Guards said, calling any crossing without authorisation "unacceptable and extremely dangerous". The Guards also denounced what they said was a new route through the water-

way announced by "certain authorities". The statement appeared to be a response to a temporary corridor announced by Oman, running close to its coast and coordinated with the IMO, a UN agency responsible for marine safety. The route was created to help commercial vessels bypass the main shipping channel after Iran mined it during the recent conflict.

Gulf reassurance

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio told Gulf leaders Washington wanted a deal with Tehran "but not at any price", saying no agreement would undermine the security, stability or prosperity of US partners in the Gulf. Oman's foreign minister said the temporary shipping route would not involve transit fees despite earlier discussions with Iran. Shipping through the strait increased to 125 vessels last week from 33 the previous week. AFP

Israel rules out troop withdrawal from Lebanon

JERUSALEM: Israel on Thursday said it had no timetable for withdrawing troops from Lebanon, Gaza and Syria, despite US-mediated talks with Lebanon in Washington. Defence Minister Israel Katz and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said forces would remain as long as necessary to counter security threats. Israel insisted any redeployment from southern Lebanon would come only after Hezbollah was disarmed and the area demilitarised. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said the two sides were close to a "commitment of intent".

US court backs weedkiller and asylum policy

WASHINGTON

THE Supreme Court sided with the maker of Roundup weedkiller Thursday in a ruling expected to block thousands of lawsuits alleging it failed to warn people the product could cause cancer. The high court, in a 7-2 ruling, found that the company cannot face failure-to-warn lawsuits in state courts because federal regulations have found a cancer link unlikely and do not require a warning label.

Bayer said the decision "is good for science, farmers, and industries that depend on regulatory clarity for innovation" and should help significantly contain the Roundup litigation.

In a separate 6-3 ruling, the Supreme Court cleared the way for the Trump administration to potentially revive an immigration policy once used to turn back migrants seeking asylum at the US-Mexico border. The justices overturned a lower court order blocking the practice that limited the number of people who could apply for asylum each day. The administration argued the policy was a critical tool used by presidents of both parties. AP

EXPRESS READ

China defends patrols in waters east of Taiwan

DHAKA: China on Thursday defended its recent patrols in waters east of Taiwan, one day after Britain, France and Germany expressed alarm about what they described as "novel Chinese activity." While the three European countries said the activity, which they did not specifically identify, endangered regional stability.

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APPENDIX IV [Rule 8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas the undersigned being the authorized officer of IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with [rule 3] of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notices calling upon the Borrower/ Co-borrowers and Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the demand notice appended below within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice together with further interest and other charges from the date of demand notice till payment/realization.

The Borrower/Co-Borrowers/Guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors and public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this notice.

Loan Account Number	Borrower/s/ Co-Borrower/s & Guarantors Name	Description of the Mortgaged Properties	Demand Notice		Date and Type of Possession Taken
			Date	Outstanding Amount (Rs.)	
148069261	1. Alphonsa J 2. Justine Diraviam V	All that piece and parcel of The Property Situated At Periyakulam Registration District, Periyakulam Joint 1 Sub Registrar Office, Periyakulam Taluk, A. Pudukkottai Village, Pudukkottai Nehru Nagar, Natham Survey No. 76/1, Plot No. 24 Of Land, Within The Four Boundaries : North : Plot No. 25 South : Plot No. 23 East : Plot No. 29 West : Street	21.02.2026	Rs. 5,51,721.69/-	24.06.2026 Possession
140726242	1. Veni M 2. P Chennaswamy	All that piece and parcel of Property Situated in Theni District, Dindigul Registration District, Battagundu Sub Registrar Office, Periyakulam Taluk, 01, Genguvarpatti Bit 2 Village, Palvadi Street, Ward No. 13, Door No. 14A, As Per Patta No. 3559, Old Survey No. 3070/3, New Survey No. 3070/69 With Extent of 0.0.62 Ares of Land Within The Four Boundaries : East : Land Belongs To Panchammal In Survey No. 3070/70, West : Anganwadi North : Street South : Street With All Apparatus And Easement Rights And Pathway.	28.02.2026	Rs. 4,29,929.31/-	24.06.2026 Possession

The Borrower/ Co-borrowers/ Guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited) for an amount mentioned in the demand notice together with further interest and other charges from the date of demand notice till payment/realization.

Sd/- Authorised Officer
IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)

DATE : 24.06.2026

PLACE : TAMIL NADU



BANK OF BARODA

Branch - ROSARB [REGIONAL STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH] : Lotus Centre, 3rd Floor, No. 4312/13D, VP Rathinasamy Road, Madurai – 625014, Telephone Nos – 0452 - 2601013, e-mail id: sarmdr@bankofbaroda.bank.in

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

"APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6)]

NAME & ADDRESS OF BORROWER (S) / GUARANTOR (S) / MORTGAGOR (S)	DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY WITH KNOWN ENCUMBRANCES, IF ANY (OWNER/MORTGAGOR NAME)	Total Dues	Date of e-Auction and Time of E-auction	1. Reserve Price, 2. EMD Amount, 3. Bid Increase Amount.	Status of Possession (Constructive / Physical)	Property Inspection date & Time
1.M/s.Sri Srinivasa Plastics (Borrower) Represented by its Proprietor Mr. P.Ganesan, S/o Perumalsamy, 2/40, South Street, Amathur Village, Sivakasi - 626005 2.Mr.P.Ganesan (Borrower and Mortgagor) S/o Perumalsamy, 2/40, South Street, Amathur Village, Sivakasi - 626005 3.Mrs. G. Susila (Guarantor), W/o Mr.P.Ganesan, 2/40, South Street, Amathur Village, Sivakasi - 626005	All that part and parcel of Land & Building located at Plot No. 31 extending to East-West 30 feet on the north, 30% feet on the south, South-North 68% feet on the east, 61 feet on the west totalling 1958.687 sq. ft. = 181.966 sq. nmts. out of the total extent on 1 acre 33 cents = 0.54.0 Hectare lies in Ayan Punja Survey No. 743/3B in Patta No. 470 divided into house site plots having common pathway and cart track rights in Amathur Village, Amathur Panchayat, Virudhunagar Panchayat Union, Virudhunagar Joint-II Sub-Registration District and Virudhunagar Registration District is Bounded By : On the North: 16 feet width East-West Road, On the East: Plot No. 30, On the South: Punja Land lies in RS. No. 744, On the West: Plot No. 32. The property is standing in the name of Mr.P.Ganesan, S/o Perumalsamy. Latitude: N 9.559729 Longitude: E 77.859898 BAANKNET Property ID: BARB602820210073	Total Balance outstanding as on 25-06-2026 : Rs.53,55,142/- (Rupees Fifty Three Lakhs Fifty Five Thousand One Hundred and Forty Two Only) and further costs, charges.	28-07-2026 2.00 PM to 6.00 PM	1. Rs. 7,00,000/- (Rupees Seven Lakhs Only) 2. Rs. 70,000/- (Rupees Seventy Thousand Only) 3. Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only)	Physical Possession	24-07-2026 10.00 AM to 4:00 PM

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer/visit to the website link <https://bankofbaroda.bank.in/e-auction> and online auction portal <https://baanknet.com> Also, prospective bidders may contact the Authorised Officer on mobile number 9790247824

DATE : 25.06.2026 / PLACE : MADURAI

Authorised Officer / Bank of Baroda