

Dakar 2017: Stage 6 cancelled due to bad weather

Heavy rain forces once again the Dakar organisation to cancel the timed section of stage 6. The IVECO trucks will drive the connecting section, from Oruro to La Paz.

Turin, 8 January 2017

Several vehicles got in trouble in the extremely muddy conditions in yesterday's stage, a truck tipped over in a river, and the navigation with the route map became almost impossible for the participants. As weather conditions did not improve, Marc Coma and the organisers decided to cancel Stage 6, which was to be the longest in the 2017 edition of the rally.

The decision was made on Friday night, when the bad conditions of the roads for Saturday were confirmed. In a press release, ASO reported the situation:

"Considering the extreme climatic conditions and that some drivers are still on the stage course, considering that it is impossible to bring vehicles of all participants back to the bivouac and prepare the next stage in the best conditions, and considering that people of the organisation in charge of the recon of tomorrow's stage course informed that the road is unpracticable, the 6th stage of ORURO-LA PAZ has been cancelled."

As Sunday will be the Rest Day for drivers, this means that there will be no competition until Monday, when the crews will attack the La Paz – Uyuni stage.

Gerard de Rooy and IVECO start the weekend at the top of the overall classification, having won the last two specials.

Dutchmen from, Ton van Genugten and Wuf van Ginkel, will be able to work on their IVECO Trakkers #507 and #525 in preparation for the second part of the race, having had a difficult stage on Friday.

Meanwhile, Federico Villagra, behind the wheel of another IVECO Powerstar, will set his sights on returning to the Top 5 in the general classification.

Overall Classification – Dakar 2017

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Gerard de Rooy (IVECO) | 14h06m07s |
| 2. Eduard Nikolaev (Kamaz) | +2m23s |
| 3. Dmitry Sotnikov (Kamaz) | +6m36s |

- 4. Airat Mardeev (Kamaz) +16m32s
- 5. Pascal de Baar (Renault Trucks)+32m25s
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- 6. Federico Villagra (IVECO) +34m30s
- 23. Ton van Genugten (IVECO) +6h07m03s
- 25. Wuf van Ginkel (IVECO) +7h04m34s

IVECO

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The brand's wide range of products include the Daily, a vehicle that covers the 3 – 7.2 ton vehicle weight segment, the Eurocargo from 6 – 19 tons, the Trakker (dedicated to off-road missions) and the Stralis, both over 16 tons. In addition, the IVECO Astra brand builds off-road trucks, rigid and articulated dumpers as well as special vehicles.

IVECO employs close to 21,000 individuals globally. It manages production sites in 7 countries throughout Europe, Asia, Africa, Oceania and Latin America where it produces vehicles featuring the latest advanced technologies. 4,200 sales and service outlets in over 160 countries guarantee technical support wherever an IVECO vehicle is at work.

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