# Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi's Helicopter Makes 'Hard Landing' Near Azerbaijan Border



A helicopter carrying Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi experienced a "hard landing" on Sunday, reported Iranian state media. The incident occurred near Jolfa, a city near the Azerbaijan border, roughly 600 kilometers northwest of Tehran. Raisi had been in East Azerbaijan province to inaugurate a dam alongside Azerbaijan’s President Ilham Aliyev. Traveling with Raisi were Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian, the governor of East Azerbaijan province, and other officials.

Iranian Interior Minister Ahmad Vahidi noted that the difficult weather conditions, including heavy rain and fog, complicated rescue efforts. Multiple rescue teams were dispatched but had not yet reached the helicopter due to the challenging terrain and poor visibility.

No immediate information was provided regarding Raisi's condition. Additional details on the incident's cause were not disclosed. Raisi, 63, is a significant political figure in Iran, closely associated with Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and has been Iran's president since 2021.