Page **1** 



# GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY ISLAMABAD



## F. No. 787/NDMA/IA&PD/2025

Islamabad, 18<sup>th</sup> Apr 2025

## Subject: Infrastructure Advisory 01/25 – Risk Preparedness for Forecasted Hailstorm/ Windstorm 18-20 Apr 2025

The Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), in its forecast issued on 18<sup>th</sup>
April 2025, has warned that a westerly weather system will affect Upper and
Central Pakistan from the night of 18 April (evening) through 20 April (morning).
This system is expected to bring hailstorms, windstorms, and lightning.

2. A severe hailstorm on 16 April 2025 caused widespread damage to **solar panels**, **vehicles**, **rooftops**, **and utility infrastructure**. To reduce the risk of similar or greater impact, all relevant departments and the public are advised to take precautionary measures immediately.

## 3. **Recommended Actions**

## a. Solar and Green Infrastructure

- Cover exposed solar panels with thick plastic sheets or jute tarpaulin (tarpaal) available in local markets.
- (2) Shut off and isolate solar systems during lightning to prevent electrical surges or short circuits.
- (3) Check and tighten panel mounts to ensure basic anchoring against wind and hail impact.

## b. Vehicles and Public Parking

- Park vehicles in covered areas such as verandas, basements, or car sheds.
- (2) Encourage mosques, schools, and commercial plazas to open covered parking for public use during hail alerts.
- (3) In absence of shelter, cover windshields with quilts, blankets, or thick cardboard to minimize breakage.

#### c. Residential Property Protection

- Tape windows (from outside) in a cross pattern or place cloth or foam cushions behind glass to reduce shattering.
- (2) Reinforce fiber / corrugated sheet rooftops using additional nails, bricks, or sandbags above them to hold panels down temporarily.
- (3) Tie down awnings, shades, and rooftop items with ropes or remove them where possible.

#### d. Roof-top Structures

- Remove or secure loose items such as plastic tanks, dish antennas, satellite receivers, or chairs.
- (2) Clean drainage pipes and outlets on roof-tops to prevent water accumulation from hail melt.
- (3) Seal visible cracks and leaks using quick-dry cement or silicone tubes available at hardware stores.

#### e. **Power and Communication Lines**

- Trim overhanging branches near electric poles or wires, especially in streets and public compounds.
- (2) Keep linemen teams on alert with essential repair tools, especially in areas with prior outages.
- (3) Ensure generators at hospitals are fuelled and protected from water or debris.

#### f. Urban Trees and Landscaping

- Prune unstable or large trees near roads or buildings in coordination with Municipal teams.
- (2) **Pre-alert Municipal/ Administrative staff** for quick clean-up in case of fallen branches.

4. The concerned departments are advised to follow the alerts and advisories issued from time to time on NDMA Website, <u>https://www.ndma.gov.pk/advisories</u> and NDMA Mobile Application.