



F.2 (E)/2025-NDMA (MW/ Snowfall Guidelines)
Government of Pakistan
Prime Minister's Office
National Disaster Management Authority (HQ)
 Main Murree Road Near ITP Office, Islamabad

MOST IMMEDIATEDated: **18 February 2025**Subject: **Snowfall/ Rainfall Safety Guidelines for Rural / Mountainous Areas**Reference: *NDMA Advisory issued vide letter No. F.2 (E)/2024-NDMA (MW/ Weather Advisory) dated 17 February 2025.*

In continuation of reference letter, as per the PMD prediction, snowfall/ rainfall is expected in the areas mentioned in above referred letter. Heavy snowfall/ rainfall in these areas can lead to road blockages, avalanches, and structural damages, especially to weak and unreinforced buildings. It is crucial for residents to take preventive measures to safeguard lives and properties. Keeping in view these conditions, the following additional guidelines for snowfall areas are enclosed for information and necessary implementation at all levels:-

a. **Roof Safety Precautions**

- (1) **Reinforce Weak Structures.** If your house has a weak roof, strengthen it before inclement weather by adding wooden or metal support beams.
- (2) **Remove Excess Snow.** Regularly clear accumulated snow from the roof using a shovel or broom to prevent excessive weight buildup.
- (3) **Avoid Flat Roofs.** Houses with flat roofs are at greater risk of collapse. If possible, construct sloped roofs to allow snow/ water to slide off.
- (4) **Use Waterproof Sheets.** Covering roofs with waterproof plastic sheets can reduce snow/ water accumulation and moisture absorption.
- (5) **Check for Warning Signs.** Watch for cracks in walls, sagging roofs, or creaking sounds, which indicate structural weakness.

b. **Personal Safety Measures**

- (1) **Stay Indoors during Heavy Snowfall/ rainfall.** Avoid going outside unless necessary to prevent exposure to extreme cold and snow-related accidents.
- (2) **Keep Emergency Exits Clear.** Regularly remove snow - *accumulated over time* - from doorways and windows to maintain entry / exit routes.
- (3) **Stock Essential Supplies.** Store food, drinking water, warm clothing, medicine, and firewood in case of prolonged snowfall/ rainfall.

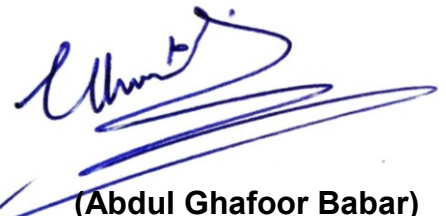
c. **Heating and Fire Safety**

- (1) **Use Safe Heating Methods.** Avoid open flames inside the house and use properly ventilated heaters or stoves.
- (2) **Prevent Carbon Monoxide Poisoning.** Ensure proper ventilation when using wood or coal-burning stoves to avoid toxic gas buildup.

d. **Community-Based Actions**

- (1) **Help Neighbours.** Assist elderly and disabled community members in clearing snow / accumulated rain water and ensuring their safety.
- (2) **Strengthen Local Shelters.** If community centers or schools are used as shelters, ensure they are structurally sound and stocked with emergency supplies.
- (3) **Stay Informed.** Follow weather forecasts and advisories from local authorities and disaster management agencies.

2. **Press Information Department Only.** With the request for wider circulation and public awareness.



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