

F.2 (E)/2023-NDMA (MW/Weather Advisory-XVII) Government of Pakistan Prime Minister's Office National Disaster Management Authority ISLAMABAD



Dated: 1 Aug 2023 Time: 1600 hours

Subject: More Monsoon Rains Predicted in Upper Parts of the Country (2 - 7 August 2023)

PMD has informed that **monsoon currents** from the Arabian Sea are penetrating upper parts of the country while a **westerly wave** is likely to enter the same areas on **3 August 2023**. Under the influence of this weather system (Pakistan Meteorological Department Press Release in *Annex A*), following is forecasted: -

- a. <u>2 to 7 August</u>. Rain / wind-thundershowers with isolated heavy falls are expected in the following regions: -
 - (1) <u>Khyber Pakhtunkhwa</u>. Galliyat, Chitral, Dir, Swat, Shangla, Buner, Mansehra, Kohistan, Abbottabad, Haripur, Peshawar, Mardan, Swabi and Nowshera.
 - (2) <u>**Punjab</u>**. Murree, Rawalpindi, Attock, Chakwal, Jhelum, Mandi Bahauddin, Hafizabad, Gujranwala, Gujrat, Sialkot, Narowal, Lahore and Sheikhupura.</u>
 - (3) <u>Gilgit Baltistan</u>. Diamer, Astore, Ghizer, Skardu, Hunza, Gilgit, Ghanche and Shigar.
 - (4) <u>State of AJ&K</u>. Neelum valley, Muzaffarabad, Poonch, Hattian, Bagh, Haveli, Sudhnoti, Kotli, Bhimber and Mirpur.
 - (5) Islamabad Capital Territory.
- b. <u>**4 to 7 August**</u>. Rain/wind-thundershowers are expected with occasional gaps in the following regions: -
 - (1) <u>Khyber Pakhtunkhwa</u>. Kurram, Lakki Marwat, Kohat, Dera Ismail Khan, Bannu, Karak and Waziristan.
 - (2) <u>Punjab</u>. Kasur, Mianwali, Sargodha, Khushab, Faisalabad, Toba Tek Singh, Jhang and Bhakkar.

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2. In light of the forecasted weather system, following impacts are expected in aforesaid regions of Pakistan: -

- a. Heavy rains may increase flows in local nullahs / streams of AJ&K,
 Gilgit-Baltistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Chitral, Dir, Swat, Kohistan, Shangla,
 Buner, Mansehra, Abbottabad), Punjab (Rawalpindi) and Islamabad Capital
 Territory from 4 7 August 2023.
- Heavy rains may cause urban flooding in vulnerable areas of Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Peshawar, Faisalabad, Sialkot, Gujranwala and Lahore from 4 - 7 August 2023.
- c. Heavy rains may trigger landslides in the vulnerable areas of Murree, Galliyat,
 AJ&K, Gilgit Baltistan and hilly / mountainous areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- d. Dust storm / wind-thunderstorms & heavy falls may cause damage to loose structures such as electrical poles, solar panels, hoardings, tall trees and under construction buildings.

3. Apropos, all PDMAs/ GBDMA/ SDMA and ICT Administration, NHA, NH&MP, FWO, Rescue 1122, Line Departments, Ministries and Federal Agencies are required to undertake measures as per respective mandates. However, following is to be ensured by all concerned in addition to measures deemed appropriate as per on ground situation / requirements: -

- PMD / FFD / PDMAs / PIDs to monitor water levels in rivers, streams, and urban drainage systems continuously to detect any signs of rising water and initiate early response measures.
- b. Proactively maintain nullahs/stormwater drains to ensure their proper functioning and prevent blockages that may lead to flooding.
- c. Ensure that drainage systems are clear of debris and obstacles to facilitate the efficient flow of water and minimize risk of urban flooding.
- d. PDMAs / GBDMA / SDMA to identify areas prone to urban flooding and implement measures such as deploying de-watering pumps to divert/drain excess water.
- Ensure the availability of emergency services personnel and equipment (Rescue 1122 / Fire Brigade / Ambulance / Civil Defence, etc) in areas at high risk of urban flooding, flash flooding, hill torrents and landslides.
- f. Preplace necessary emergency equipment at vulnerable / strategic locations to expedite response efforts.
- g. NH&MP and Traffic Police to coordinate with Law Enforcement Agencies to manage and redirect traffic in affected areas to prevent congestion and facilitate emergency response efforts.
- h. Coordinate with concerned departments (NHA, FWO, and C&W) for the restoration of roads in case of any blockage/obstruction.

- Ensure immediate stocking of basic commodities, including paramedics and medicine, especially in regions that are likely to get cut-off during landslides / avalanches / flooding.
- j. NHA / Line Departments to conduct regular inspections of critical infrastructure, such as bridges and roads, to identify and address any vulnerabilities that may lead to structural damage during heavy rainfall.
- k. Coordinate with relevant departments to secure loose structures such as electrical poles, solar panels, hoardings, and under-construction buildings to mitigate potential damages from dust-wind/thunderstorms.
- Advise general public to seek shelter in safe areas such as sturdy buildings or underground structures during dust-wind/hail-thunderstorms and avoid objects that pose a risk of falling / being struck by lightning.
- m. Conduct mass public awareness campaigns to educate residents in vulnerable areas about the risks of urban flooding / landslides and precautionary measures to take.
- n. Forewarn travellers / visitors about risks posed from flooding / landslides in vulnerable locations and provide guidance and assistance in case of emergencies through local administration, police and rescue services.
- Advise farmers to take necessary mitigative and precautionary measures to safeguard their crops, such as timely harvesting, safe storage, or any other precautions from adverse effects of dust-wind-thunderstorms/hailstorms.
- Advise cattle/sheep herders to undertake necessary mitigative and precautionary measures to protect their livestock, such as safe sheltering or any other precautions from adverse effects of dust-wind-thunderstorms/hailstorms.
- q. Strengthen coordination among all relevant departments and agencies to facilitate the timely sharing of information and resources during emergency situations.
- r. Establish reliable communication channels with local communities to provide timely updates, instructions, and emergency contact information during monsoon season.
- Ensure widespread circulation of alerts and advisories, especially in local languages, to raise awareness and sensitize travelers / tourists and local communities in at-risk/vulnerable areas.
- t. Ensure round-the-clock monitoring of the situation through EOCs with regular feedback to PEOCs and NEOC.
- u. Share daily / routine updates with NDMA in case of any eventuality.

4. **Press Information Department Only**. With the request to ensure wider circulation and

public awareness.

5. Forwarded for information / necessary action, please.

e.

(Muhammad Ali Khan) Director (Response) Tel No: 051-9030924 Fax No: 051-9030729

(Distribution List Attached)

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- ID: PRO, NDMA Deputy Director ICT, NDMA

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Annex A

PMD PRESS RELEASE

Government of Pakistan Ministry of Aviation (Aviation Division) Pakistan Meteorological Department Sector: H-8/2, Islamabad.

> Date: August 01, 2023 Time: 14:30 PST

Spokesperson

More monsoon rains predicted in upper parts during the week

Met Office informed that monsoon currents from Arabian Sea are likely to penetrate in upper parts of the country. A westerly wave is also likely to enter these areas on 03rd August. Under the influence of these systems:

- Rain/wind-thundershower (with isolated heavy falls) is expected in Kashmir, (Neelum valley, Muzaffarabad, Poonch, Hattian, Bagh, Haveli, Sudhanoti, Kotli, Bhimber, Mirpur), Gilgit Baltistan (Diamir, Astore, Ghizer, Skardu, Hunza, Gilgit, Ghanche, Shigar), Murree, Galliyat, Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Attock, Chakwal, Jhelum, Mandi Bahauddin, Hafizabad, Gujranwala, Gujrat, Sialkot, Narowal, Lahore, Sheikhupura, Chitral, Dir, Swat, Shangla, Buner, Mansehra, Kohistan, Abbottabad, Haripur, Peshawar, Mardan, Swabi and Nowshera from <u>02nd (evening/night) to</u> <u>07th August</u> with occasional gaps.
- Rain/wind-thundershower is expected in Kurram, Lakki Marwat, Kohat, Dera Ismail Khan, Bannu, Karak, Waziristan, Kasur, Mianwali, Sargodha, Khushab, Faisalabad, Toba Tek Singh, Jhang and Bhakkar from <u>04th</u> (evening/night) to 07th August with occasional gaps.

Impacts and Advises:

- Heavy rains may increase the water flow in local Nullahs and streams of Kashmir, Gilgit-Baltistan, Chitral, Dir, Swat, Kohistan, Shangla, Buner, Manshera, Abbottabad, Rawalpindi/Islamabad from 04th to 07th August.
- Heavy rains may cause urban flooding in low lying areas of Islamabad/Rawalpindi, Peshawar, Gujranwala, Lahore, from 04th to 07th August and may trigger landslides in the vulnerable areas of Murree, Galliyat, Kashmir, Gilgit Baltistan and hilly areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa during the wet spell.
- Farmers are advised to manage their activities keeping in view the weather forecast.
- Tourists and travelers are advised to remain extra cautious to avoid any untoward situation during the wet spell.
- Wind-thunderstorm may damage loose structures like electric poles, solar panels etc.
- General public is advised to stay at safe places during wind-storm/lightning/heavy rains.

NOTE:

All concerned authorities are advised to remain ALERT and to take necessary precautionary measure during the forecast period. For latest updates, kindly visit: <u>https://www.pmd.gov.pk/en/</u>

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