

# Pakistan Oilfields Limited

HSE Bulletin



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# "WHEN THUNDER ROARS, GO INDOORS"

# Monsoon Season Safety

## Monsoon Season in Pakistan

Rainy season or monsoon season starts in Pakistan from mid July and lasts up to mid September. Monsoon season is a blessing however, it may become nuisance in many ways



due to heavy rains, windstorms, floods, road accidents & most importantly a lot of dangerous diseases associated with waterborne germs. It is therefore vital to be prepared for the monsoon weather and its associated hazards.

اگرچہ موسم بر سات ایک نعمت ہے تاہم بھاری بار شوں، آند ھی، طوفان، سیلاب، سڑک پر حادثات اور پانی کے جراثیم سے وابستہ خطرناک بیاریوں کی وجہ سے پریثانی کاباعث بن سکتا ہے۔ اس لئے موسم بر سات سے وابستہ خطرات کے لئے تیار رہنا بہت ضر ورک ہے۔

## What are Monsoon Hazards?

There is no denying that the rains are an important replenishment of life. Water is essential for growing crops and basic human needs; however, monsoon brings their own hazards. Some of the most common hazards are:

#### **Electrical Hazards**

Monsoon season often results in an escalation of electric shock & electrocution accidents. Wet poles, broken power lines, water penetration in electrical DBs and power



sockets often become a deadly source of electrocution during monsoon. Also due to high moisture contents, metallic bodies of normal household appliances like washing machines, refrigerators etc. can become live causing severe electric shock accidents.

#### Lightning

A lightning strike is an electrical charge current which flows between the clouds and ground. It often occurs during



rainy season and mostly strikes the tallest object (trees, electrical poles, towers or a person standing in an open area). Each spark of lightning can reach over 100 million electrical volts which is lethal in a blink of eye. It is therefore one of the most dangerous hazard associated with monsoon season.

# <u>Windstorms</u>

Windstorms create particularly hazardous conditions in monsoon. As wind speeds are so high that it causes weak trees to be dislodged and loose structures to be uplifted. Also



in Pakistan, we have above ground electricity distribution, so electricity poles and broken electric lines create additional hazards in monsoon.

## Floods & Rain Water Accumulation

Floods & rain water accumulation are the most likely hazards associated with monsoon. People living near river passing areas are most affected from flooding hazard



but sometimes heavy rains can cause flash flooding in any low lying area. Rain water accumulation on roads is one of the major reasons of road accidents, electric shock accidents and waterborne diseases.

### Waterborne Diseases

During monsoon season, our immune system gets weakened causing attacks of many water borne diseases. The risk of catching various diseases is extremely high due to



unhygienic conditions created by water accumulation and contamination from sewerage systems. Most common monsoon diseases are;

- Influenza (Cold and Flu)
- Diarrhea & Gastroenteritis (Food poisoning)
- Typhoid fever
- Dengue fever
- Malaria

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## How to avoid diseases in Monsoon?

Stay healthy this monsoon season by adopting basic safety precautions as mentioned below:

 Avoid & clear stagnant water to keep mosquitoes out. Look through flower pots, ditches & corners that may be holding stagnant water.



- Drink clean water. The best practice is to boil it and keep it covered. Try to avoid sharing drinking glasses and utensils. Also keep all edibles covered.
- Avoid eating street food. Always try to eat fresh, home-cooked meals. Also avoid eating precut fruit and vegetables or keep them in refrigerator. Keep your cooking and eating areas clean and ensure personal hygiene.
- Don't stay wet and try to change wet cloths as soon as possible.
  Do not enter an AC room with damp hair. There are high chances of catching a cold.

#### Driving Safety in Monsoon

During monsoon season, there is greater risk for road accidents due to slippery roads, impaired vision and windstorms. Follow these steps to avoid road accidents in this season.



#### **General Safety Tips for Monsoon Season**

Here are general safety tips to be followed during monsoon season:









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