



# Advisory on Chadar Trek

**Background :** The Chadar is popular winter trek with the objective of walking over the frozen Zaskar river. In recent years some areas of the river do not freeze over through the winter resulting in situations where trekker have to traverse sections which have not frozen.

**Advisory released by the IMF on January 3, 2018 :**

1. The Chadar trek is typically rated as an easy or moderate trek recommended for first time trekkers. Based on the current circumstances where the river is in a semi frozen in some sections the trek must be rated as difficult or demanding.
2. Treks rated difficult or demanding should be conducted in small groups with safety gear to ensure that multiple safeguards are in place. Adventure lovers who are signing on to do the Chadar in the 2018 season should understand the trek rating and also ensure that the trek operator is adequately proficient in managing the risk associated with traversing a river with multiple unstable sections.

**Col. H.S. Chauhan**  
**President, Indian Mountaineering Foundation**



An example of unsafe practice observed recently