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Situation in Bulgaria /ROUNDUP/

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The heavy snowfall has complicated the situation in Southern Bulgaria and the region of Rila and Rhodopi mountains. National Road Infrastructure Agency has called on motorists not to travel in these regions. If they have to, they should be prepared for winter driving. Vehicles must have tire chains when they are moving in the municipalities of Velingrad and Peshtera. It is still snowing in many municipalities.

It is still snowing heavily in the municipalities of Blagoevgrad and Kyustendil.

The snow layer in the region is more than 40 cm deep and at Gyueshevo border checkpoint it is over 80 cm.

It is sleeting in the municipality of Pernik and along Petrohan Pass.

The roads are being cleaned of the snow and treated with sand.

All vehicles must have tire chains and trucks must be without trailers and semi-trailers when they are traveling through the passes of Rozhen, Prevala and Pamporovo.

The snow has been removed from Trakia highway, but the road surface is wet.

National Road Infrastructure Agency advises motorists not to travel in Southern Bulgaria and in the region of Rila and Rhodopi mountains unless it is an emergency.

The heavy overnight snowfall has cut off the power in southwestern municipalities, CEZ-Bulgaria announced.

The snow layer is 65 cm deep and the teams find it difficult to reach the municipalities. 70 villages in the municipality of Kyustendil do not have power supply.

Villages in the municipalities of Petrich and Simitli have had their power cut off as well. Gyueshevo customs does not have power. There are stranded trucks, which prevent CEZ teams from reaching the border checkpoint.

The weather in the mountains is bad, Mountain Rescue Service told Focus News Agency.

The snow layer is between 30 and 40 cm deep. It is foggy and, on high grounds, windy.

The temperatures are between 5 and 15 degrees below zero. The weather is not appropriate for tourism. The risk of avalanches is heightened.

The telephones of the Mountain Rescue Service are: 02/ 9632000 and 088 1470.