

MOST IMMEDIATE
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Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Water Resources
**Office of the Chief Engineering Adviser/
Chairman, Federal Flood Commission**

No. FC-5(34) Lai Tech/2022

6-Ataturk Avenue, G-5/1,
Islamabad, the July 23, 2024

1. Managing Director, Water & Sanitation Agency, Rawalpindi.
2. Chief Executive Officer, Rawalpindi Cantonment Board, Rawalpindi.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Rawalpindi.
4. Administrator, Municipal Corporation Rawalpindi, Rawalpindi.

**Sub: JOINT INSPECTION OF CRITICAL REACHES OF LAI NULLAH BY THE FFC TEAM
ALONG WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF WASA CARRIED OUT ON 12th JULY 2024**

I have been directed to refer to the subject cited above and to state that FFC's Team along with representatives of Water & Sanitation Agency (WASA), Rawalpindi carried out Joint Inspection of critical reaches of Lai Nullah on 12th July 2024 to review progress made so far on desilting/dredging of Lai Nullah.

2. A copy of the Inspection Report is attached at **Annexure-I** for taking further necessary action on the recommendations reflected in the Report.
3. This issues with the approval of CEA/CFFC, Islamabad.

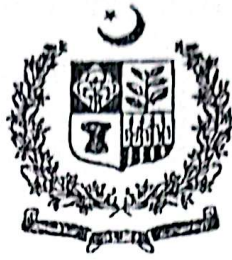
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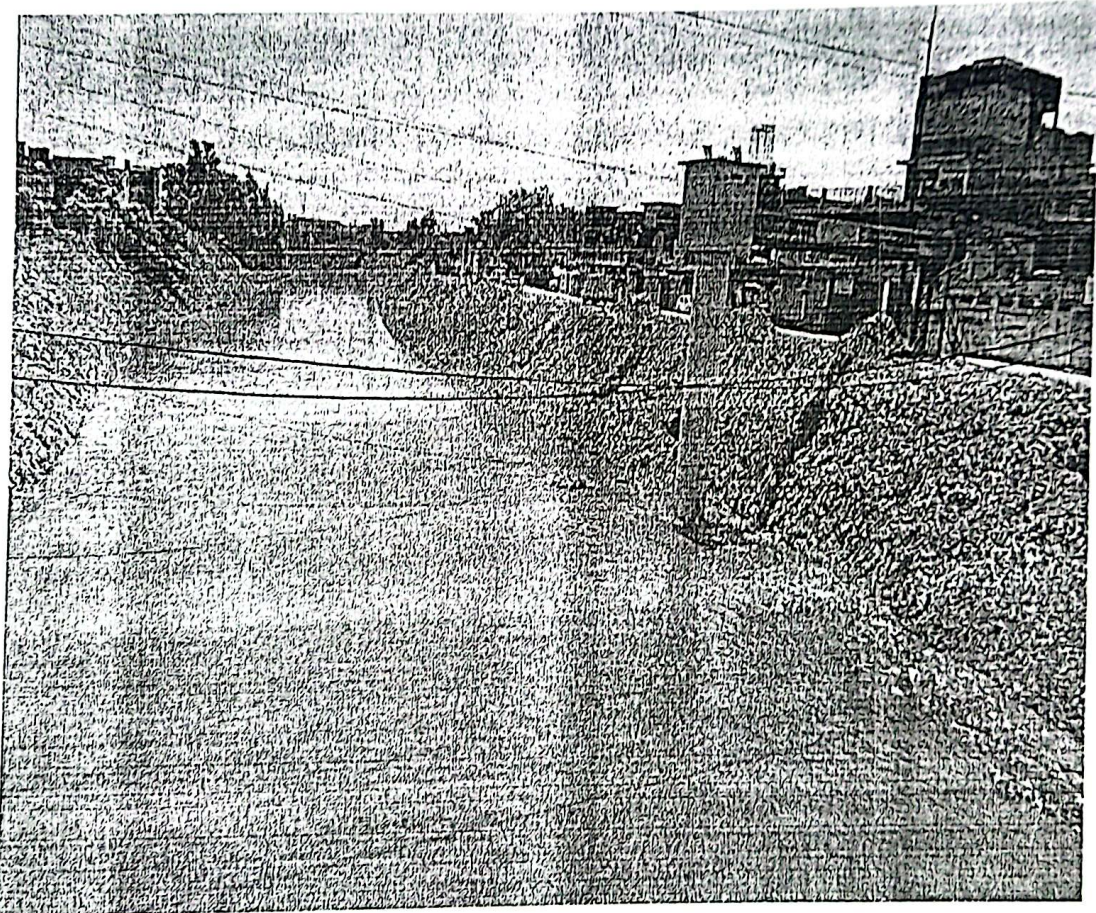

(Engr. Sibite Hassan)
Assistant Engineer (Floods)

Copy to:

1. Director to Federal Minister for Water Resources, Islamabad.
2. Director General, Rawalpindi Development Authority, Rawalpindi
3. Mr. Azizullah Khan, Director (Sewerage & Drainage), Water & Sanitation Agency, Rawalpindi.
4. CC Engineer, 10 Corps, Chaklala, Rawalpindi.
5. Engineer's Directorate, GHQ, Rawalpindi.
6. PS to CEA/CFFC, Islamabad.
7. P.S to Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority, Islamabad.
8. P.S to Director General, Pakistan Metrological Department, Islamabad.



GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEERING ADVISOR/
CHAIRMAN FEDERAL FLOOD COMMISSION



INSPECTION REPORT

ON

VISIT TO THE SITES OF LAI NULLAH, RAWALPINDI CITY

July 12, 2024

9/23/24

15/23-7-24

SUB: **JOINT INSPECTION OF CRITICAL REACHES OF LAI NULLAH BY THE
FFC TEAM ALONGWITH REPRESENTATIVES OF WASA HELD ON
12th JULY 2024**

FFC's Team alongwith representatives of WASA Rawalpindi carried out joint inspection of critical reaches of Lai Nullah on 12th July 2024. Brief report on Lai Nullah, site observations and recommendations are given in the following paras;

BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

Nullah Lai is a rainwater-fed natural stream flowing through the city of Rawalpindi. Every monsoon season, the stream floods after being fed by its catchment basin in the Margalla Hills bordering Islamabad. Lai Nullah has a catchment area of about 234.8 Km², drains out the major part of Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT), besides, storm water of the Rawalpindi city. Lai Nullah starts from the IJP Road in Islamabad at the administrative boundary between the twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad.

The Nullah passes through thickly populated areas of twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi and at times causes damages to the private and public infrastructure during monsoon season. The population located in the vicinity of low-lying areas is thus extremely vulnerable to flooding and often badly affected, when flood water level rises in main Lai Nullah and its tributaries during monsoon season.

There are several drains/ sewage channels taking the sewage and storm water of Rawalpindi city, which join the main Lai Nullah on the way before its outfall in Soan River. The Nullah combined with its tributaries such as Saidpur Kasi, Kanitwali, Badarwali Kasi and Tenawali Kasi, originating from Margala Hills enter the Rawalpindi city from CDA area at IJ Principal Road and Khayaban-e- Sir Syed. The additional tributaries including Niki Lai, Dhoke Hassu Nullah, Dhoke Ellahi Bakhsh and PAF Colony Nullah join the main stream of Lai Nullah within Rawalpindi City. The main causes of flooding in Lai Nullah are encroachments in waterway, dumping of solid wastage & building material, besides, settlement in the low-lying area located along the banks of Lai Nullah.

MONITORING TEAM

Federal Flood Commission:

- (i) Engr. Sibite Hassan, Assistant Engineer (Floods).
- (ii) Mr. Basit Hussain, Sub Engineer (Floods)

WASA Rawalpindi:

- (i) Mr. Azizullah Khan, Director (Sewerage & Drainage)
- (ii) Mr. Muhammad Afzal, Assistant Director

MEETING/BRIEFING AND SITE VISIT OF LAI NULLAH

Deputy Director (P&D), WASA, Rawalpindi briefed that Lai Nullah in Rawalpindi spans 17 kilometers from Kattariaan Bridge to High Court Bridge. The responsibility for desilting this Nullah is divided among WASA, the Rawalpindi Cantonment Board (RCB), and the Chaklala Cantonment Board (CCB) based on their respective jurisdictions. Specifically, WASA is responsible for 8

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kilometers of the Nullah, while the remaining 9 kilometers fall under the jurisdiction of the Cantonment areas managed by the RCB and CCB.

The Deputy Director (P&D) of WASA explained that WASA conducts desilting activities of Lai Nullah annually, funded either by their own revenue or through supplementary grants from the Government of Punjab. WASA Rawalpindi requested Rs. 80.00 Million from the Govt. of the Punjab as a supplementary grant for the desilting of the Lai Nullah. Out of the requested amount, Rs. 50.00 Million has been received. The desilting work commenced on 10th June 2024, and as of now, 95% of the physical work has been completed. 100% of the received funds have already been utilized for the project. However, due to limited funds, desilting efforts focus only on the critical sections of Lai Nullah.

He further stated that retention/ check dams and the diversion of local Nullahs upstream of Kattarian were proposed in a study conducted by JICA in 2001. The pressure of floods in Lai Nullah would have been significantly reduced if these measures had been implemented in time. He also shared the progress made in cleaning these critical reaches during the briefing.

The Assistant Engineer (Floods) of the Federal Flood Commission (FFC) inquired about the current status of the project titled "Providing/fixing of fencing at Lai Nullah including surveillance, Rawalpindi." with an allocated budget of Rs. 300.00 million, as reflected in the Umbrella PC-I of FPSP-III Updated. Representative of WASA responded that the PC-I has been prepared and submitted to higher authorities for formal approval. Once approved, it will be submitted to the FFC for consideration. After the briefing, a site visit to the critical reaches of Lai Nullah was conducted.

INSPECTION OF CRITICAL REACHES OF LAI NULLAH

(i). Gawalmandi Bridge

The team visited Lai Nullah from downstream of Gawalmandi Bridge to upstream of Kattariaan Bridge. Desilting work was observed to be in progress. Water Level Gauging Station was found to be under sludge. Field formation reported that while the desilting work had been completed, recent rain had caused some debris, sludge, and waste material to be deposited again. They assured that this material would be removed soon.

(ii). Pir Wadahi Bridge

The second critical point, Pir Wadahi Bridge, was visited. It was observed that the major reasons for siltation and blockage of Lai Nullah at this point were the disposal of solid waste and the dumping of building waste material.

(iii). Kattarain Bridge


The water level gauging station was found to be submerged in solid waste. An excavator was working in Lai Nullah to remove the debris and solid waste..

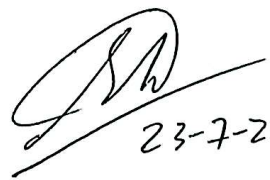
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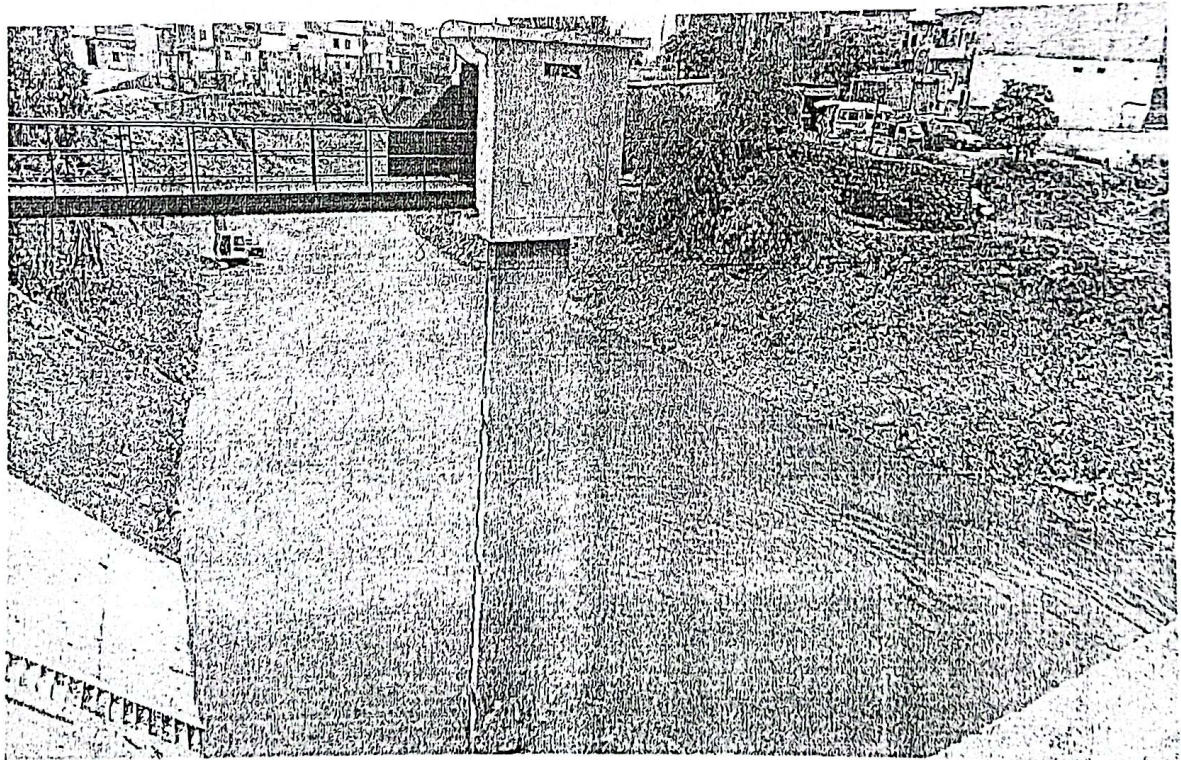
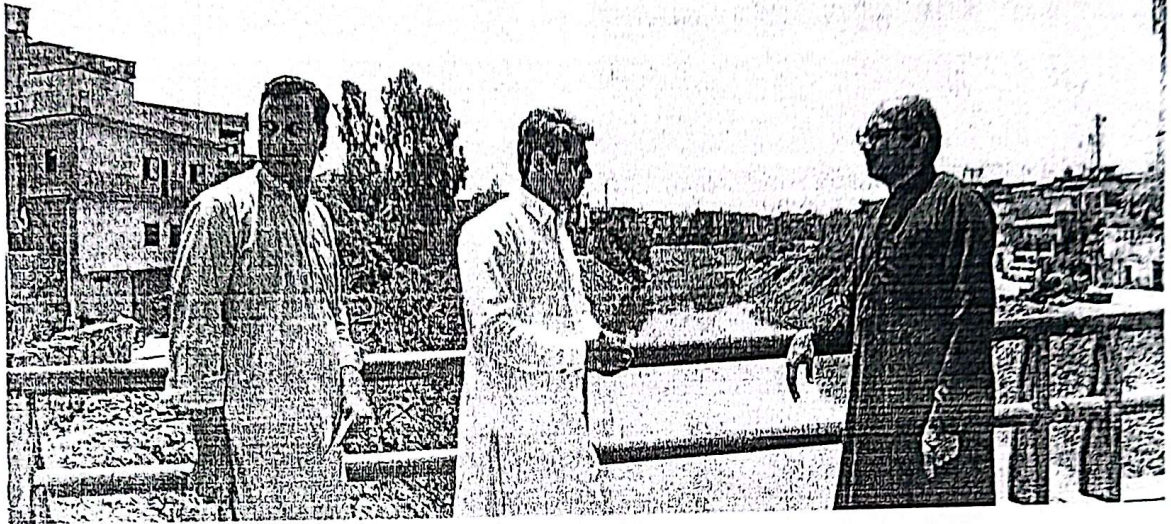
RECOMMENDATIONS:

- i. The inhabitants of the area are dumping solid waste and building materials in the nullah bed and along the banks of Lai Nullah. There are also encroachments along the banks of Lai Nullah. The District Government is strongly advised for the removal of these encroachments and to take pre-emptive measures to prevent people from dumping solid waste and building materials in the nullah bed or along the banks in the future. Towards this end, comprehensive SOPs alongwith booklet prepared at the time of implementation of Lai Nullah Flood Forecasting & Warning System in 2007 be used as awareness material.
- ii. Throwing solid waste into Lai Nullah is a major cause of siltation and blockage. It is imperative that concerned departments such as WASA, District Administration Rawalpindi, Municipal Corporation Rawalpindi, Rawalpindi Development Authority, and Rawalpindi Cantonment Board collaborate through joint efforts to control this practice effectively during this monsoon season and on long term basis as well.
- iii. A proper surveillance mechanism/ SOP be developed and implemented to effectively control the dumping of construction materials and solid waste along both banks of Lai Nullah. This would help in preventing further siltation and blockage of the Nullah, ensuring better maintenance and environmental cleanliness, besides saving of O&M funds spent every year on desilting activity.
- iv. PC-I of the sub-project of FPSP-III titled "Providing/fixing of fencing at Lai Nullah including surveillance, Rawalpindi," with an allocated budget of Rs. 300.00 million, be submitted to this office at the earliest for review and consideration.


Basit Hussain
Sub Engineer (Floods)
Federal Flood Commission

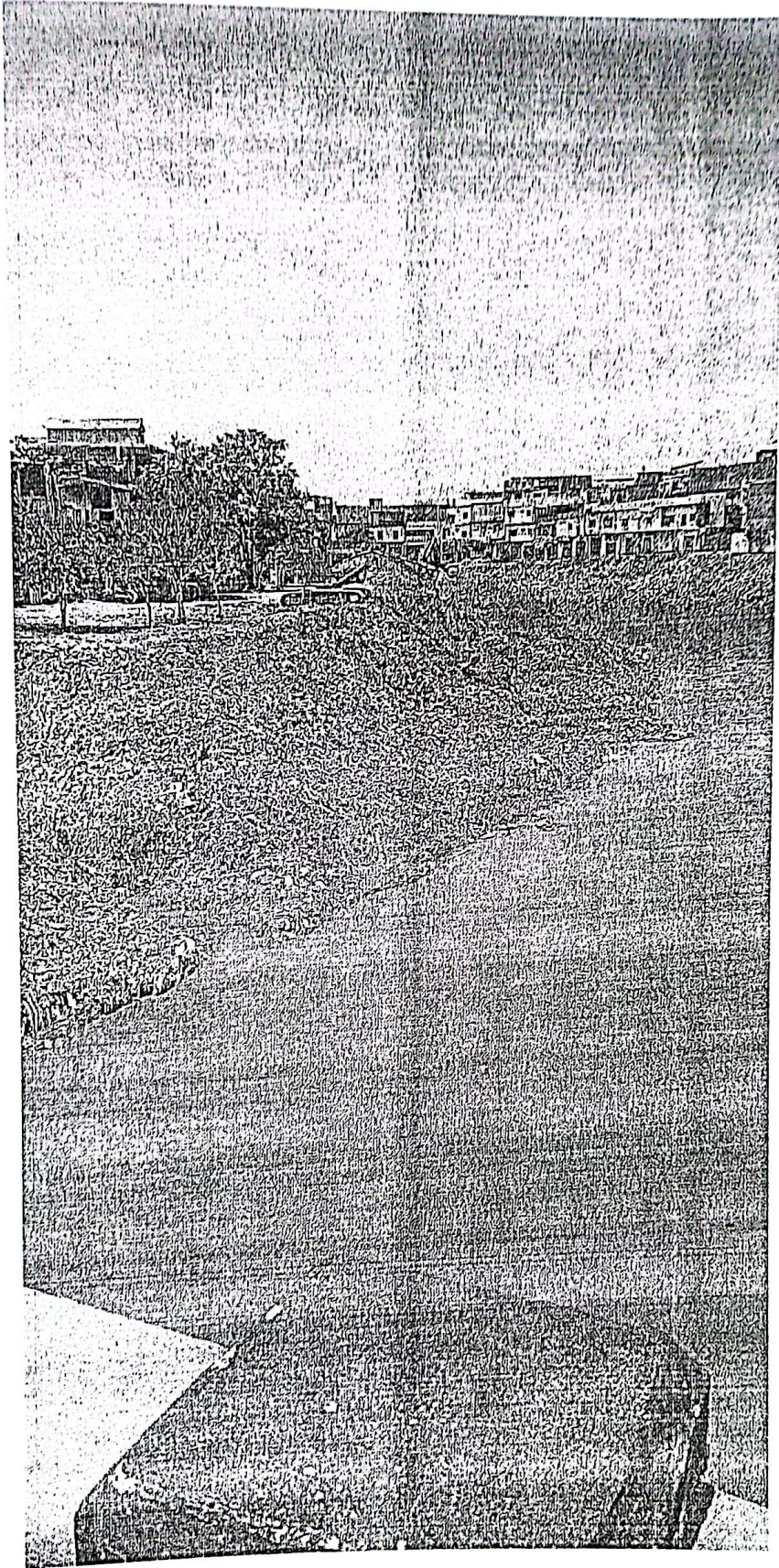

23-7-24
Engr. Sibite Hassan
Assistant Engineer (Floods)
Federal Flood Commission

(PHOTOGRAPHS OF LAI NULLAH)



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