



Chief Engineering Advisor &
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No. FC-5(34) Lai Tech/2019
Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Water Resources
Office of the Chief Engineering Advisor &
Chairman Federal Flood Commission
6-Ataturk Avenue, Sector G-5/1,
Islamabad, July 24, 2019

Sub: **ONSET OF MONSOON RAINS - FLOOD MANAGEMENT OF LAI NULLAH AND ITS TRIBUTARIES**

Dear *Amer Ali Ahmad sb*

Urban-flooding is an emerging issue being faced globally owing to uncertain and extreme climate changes causing high intensity short duration rains and subsequent flash floods. This is further augmented due to improper and unplanned land uses, poor design and maintenance of storm water drainage network, besides, encroachments within & along the natural streams/drains passing through the urban areas.

2. May I invite your kind attention to my earlier even number communication dated 16th April 2019. As you know, the Lai 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 high to very high monsoon spells. 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 various tributaries of nullah during summer season. In the context of Lai Nullah it would be pertinent to mention here that it 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. Other three major tributaries; namely (i) Nikki Lai, (ii) Pir Wadhai Kas and (iii) Dhok Ratta Nullah falls one after the other in Lai Nullah, which ultimately falls in Soan River. Further there are other six (6) 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.

3. Active monsoon has set in and this is going to bring heavy downpours, especially in the northern parts of Pakistan including Islamabad from now onwards to mid August 2019. In this context all necessary pre-emptive arrangements are required to be placed fully especially in the context of flooding in Lai Nullah and its tributaries in Islamabad. Necessary cleaning of these tributaries including removing of road blockages would be needed on 24/7 basis to ensure smooth running of official business and the economic activities.

4. I would request your personal attention to issue necessary directions to all concerned so that the ongoing monsoon season is passed safely. Further to above as the revision of Islamabad Master Plan is in hand with CDA, it is high time to consider inclusion of proposals contained in JICA Master Feasibility Study on Flood Management and Environment Improvement of Islamabad-Rawalpindi in the revised Master Plan of Islamabad and their priority and early implementation to ensure resilience of Capital City to rains and floods. Further, the issue of Urban Storm Management is covered in National Water Policy which also requires taking appropriate measures.

With profound regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Ahmed Kamal)

Mr, Amer Ali Ahmad
Chairman,
Capital Development Authority (CDA), Islamabad.

Copy to:

1. Secretary to the Prime Minister, Prime Minister's Office, Islamabad.
2. Director General, Rawalpindi Development Authority (RDA), Rawalpindi.
3. Managing Director, WASA, Rawalpindi.
4. PS to Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Islamabad.
5. PS to Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Islamabad.
6. PS to Chief Commissioner Islamabad.
7. SPS to CEA/ CFFC.

SPS/APC

27.08.2019