

**Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Water Resources
Office of Chief Engineering Advisor &
Chairman, Federal Flood Commission**

No. FC-I (23)/2023

6-Ataturk Avenue, G-5/1,
Islamabad, the April 25, 2025

Sub: **MINUTES OF 1ST PRE-MONSOON MEETING OF FEDERAL FLOOD COMMISSION (FFC) REGARDING PREPAREDNESS FOR MONSOON SEASON 2025**

I have been directed to enclose herewith minutes of the subject cited meeting held on 9th April 2025 in the committee room of Office of Chief Engineering Advisor/ Chairman, Federal Flood Commission, Islamabad. All concerned organizations are requested to take action on the decisions reflected in the minutes and intimate compliance status.

2. This issues with the approval of the CEA/ Chairman FFC.

Encl: As above.


(M. Hanif Chachar)
Principal River Engineer
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Distribution:

1. Member (Infrastructure), Planning Commission, Islamabad.
2. Chairman, Indus River System Authority, Islamabad.
3. Pakistan Commissioner for Indus Waters (PCIW), Islamabad.
4. Member (Water), WAPDA, WAPDA House, Lahore.
5. Director General (Engineer), Engineers Directorate, GHQ, Rawalpindi.
6. Chief, (Water Resources Section), Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, Islamabad.
7. Director General, Pakistan Meteorological Department, H-8, Islamabad.
8. Chairman, National Highway Authority, Islamabad.
9. Member (Operations), National Disaster Management Authority, Prime Minister's Office, Islamabad.
10. Chief Executive Officer, Pakistan Railways, Lahore.
11. Secretary, Irrigation Department, Government of the Punjab, Lahore.
12. Secretary, Irrigation Department, Government of Sindh, Karachi.
13. Secretary, Irrigation Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Peshawar.
14. Secretary, Irrigation Department, Government of Balochistan, Quetta.
15. Secretary, Water Management & Irrigation Department, Government of Gilgit Baltistan, Gilgit.
16. Secretary, Irrigation & Agriculture Department, Government of AJ&K, Muzaffarabad.
17. Director General (CC), Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Islamabad.
18. Director General, Provincial Disaster Management Authority, Govt. of the Punjab, Lahore.
19. Director General, Provincial Disaster Management Authority, Govt. of Sindh, Karachi.
20. Director General, Provincial Disaster Management Authority, Govt. of KP, Peshawar.
21. Director General, Provincial Disaster Management Authority, Govt. of Balochistan, Quetta.
22. Director General, Gilgit-Baltistan Disaster Management Authority, Gilgit.
23. Director General, State Disaster Management Authority, Govt. of AJ&K, Muzaffarabad.

Copy alongwith enclosures to;

1. General Manager (SUPARCO), Pakistan Space & Upper Atmosphere, Research Commission SPARCENT, Near CDA Toll Plaza, Rawat, Islamabad.
2. General Manager (HRM), WAPDA House, Lahore.
3. General Manager, Tarbela Dam Project, Tarbela.
4. General Manager, Mangla Dam Organization, Mangla.
5. Director General, Irrigation & Small Dams, Government of A.F&K, Muzaffarabad.
6. Chief Engineer, Merged Area, Irrigation Department, Peshawar.
7. Executive Director, Global Change Impact Studies Centre (GCISC).
8. Commissioner, Rawalpindi
9. Managing Director, WASA, Liaquat Bagh, Rawalpindi.
10. Managing Director, WASA, Lahore.
11. Director General, Lahore Development Authority, Johar Town, Lahore.
12. Metropolitan Commissioner, Karachi Metropolitan Cooperation, Civic Centre, Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Karachi.
13. Director General, Karachi Development Authority, 1st Floor, Civic Center, Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Karachi.
14. Director General (WRD), Ministry of Water Resources, Islamabad.
15. Director General (S&FM), Office of CEA/CFFC, Islamabad.

Copy for information to:

1. Director to the Federal Minister, Ministry of Water Resources, Islamabad.
2. PS to Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Islamabad.
3. PS to CEA & CFFC, Islamabad.

Sub: MINUTES OF 1ST PRE MONSOON 2025 MEETING OF FEDERAL FLOOD COMMISSION HELD ON 9TH APRIL 2025 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF OFFICE OF CEA/CFFC, ISLAMABAD

The 1st Pre-Monsoon 2025 meeting of Federal Flood Commission (FFC) to review the preparedness for Monsoon Season 2025 was held on 9th April 2025 at 1030 hours in the Committee Room of Office of the Chief Engineering Advisor/Chairman Federal Flood Commission under the Chairmanship of Chief Engineering Advisor/Chairman Federal Flood Commission. List of participants is attached as **Annexure-I**.

2. The meeting started with recitation from the Holy Quran. The Chair welcomed all the participants present physically as well as attending the meeting online. After introduction by the participants, the Chair stated that Pakistan was facing threat of climate change causing extreme weather conditions like rising temperature, heat waves and unpredictable storms and rains. He emphasized that necessary preparations need to be completed in advance before onslaught of monsoon season 2025. He continued saying that 1st Monsoon preparatory meeting had therefore been organized by FFC in order to take stock of preparations done by the relevant flood management organizations and further deliberation regarding finalization of Contingency plan for upcoming Monsoon 2025. He also applauded the coordination efforts made during the last monsoon season and asked for more coordinated efforts for the upcoming monsoon season. The Chair then requested all PIDs & FLAs to appraise their actions taken so far to remove encroachments in the floodplains, which caused hindrance in river flows as per the decision taken in the FFC post monsoon meeting held on October 09, 2024.
3. The representative of PID Punjab informed that there were no critical encroachments within the floodplain in Punjab. He stated that non-critical encroachments existed in the flood plains for which efforts were underway to remove them with the assistance of Revenue Department. The Chair inquired about how to classify critical and non-critical encroachments. He explained that *critical* encroachments were those which lie in flood plain/water way of river, whereas encroachments which lie on the embankment/bunds and on the countryside slope and have no effect on river flow during flood season and obstructed flood-fighting activities are treated as *non-critical* encroachments. The Chair expressed concern that PIDs and FLAs were focusing only on the safety of hydraulic structures while neglecting the safety of people residing in the floodplains. He further instructed that FFC would no longer accept "No Encroachment" certificates from PIDs and FLAs unless properly signed with the name and designation of the issuing officer/authority to ascertain responsibility. He also referred to the directives of the meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Water Resources held on 25th February 2025, which required removal of all encroachments in the floodplains within one month. In case of failure to comply with the instruction of removal of all encroachments, PIDs and FLAs would be solely responsible for any loss of life and property during the upcoming monsoon season.
4. Representative of PID Khyber Pakhtunkhwa informed that as per the River Protection Ordinance (RPO) 2002, the floodplain was defined as the area within 200 feet from the river's centerline. He added that directives had been issued to all concerned PID officials for the identification and removal of all encroachments in coordination with local administrations. He stated that a comprehensive report would be submitted to FFC on the status of encroachment. He further stated that PID Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was currently implementing five (05) flood rehabilitation

projects since 2022, at a cost of Rs. 7.15 billion, with an overall progress of 50%. The Chair urged early completion of those projects before Monsoon 2025.

5. Regarding joint inspections of existing bunds and breaching sections with the Pakistan Army, representative of PID Punjab stated that departmental teams had been formed who were carrying out their activity and their reports were awaited. However, no joint inspection with the Pak Army had yet been conducted in Punjab Province.

6. The representative of PID Sindh informed the forum that encroachment issues had already been discussed separately with FFC and relevant data had been shared with the FFC. However, a comprehensive report on encroachments in Sindh Province would be submitted to FFC within two weeks as advised by the Chair. He also assured that the Monsoon Contingency Plan of PID Sindh was in place. The Chair inquired whether encroachment identification and removal activities were being carried out. The Additional Secretary PID Sindh, responded that no such activity was currently underway. In contrast, representative of PID Sindh informed that they were planning joint inspections of bunds with the Pak Army. Principal River Engineer (PRE) FFC, requested the representative of PID Sindh to submit their flood-fighting plans for Monsoon 2025, to which PID Sindh assured submission within April 2025. Additionally, PID Sindh informed that JICA recently conducted inspection of flood-prone areas in Sindh. Prior to the JICA visit, we had identified 102 vulnerable sections, whereas JICA identified 162 points.

7. Representative of PID Sindh further stated the forum that monsoon preparedness typically begins in May every year. He assured that inspections and necessary repairs of bunds and vulnerable sections planned for completion before onset of Monsoon. Locally made cuts in bunds will be restored to original levels before the monsoon 2025 begins.

8. Representative of PID Balochistan stated that encroachment details, including coordinates, had been submitted to FFC. However, the Superintending Engineer (Floods), FFC, clarified that SUPARCO required encroachment data including coordinates and the date of removal by respective PIDs for verification using GIS. Superintending Engineer (Floods), FFC clarified that the information provided by PID Balochistan lacked requisite details.

9. Director General, Irrigation & Small Dams (AJ&K) informed that no canal irrigation network existed in AJ&K. However, encroachments within river floodplains were being handled by the Land Revenue Department, Government of AJ&K, and FFC had already taken up the matter with them to collect encroachments information from them. Principal River Engineer (PRE) FFC pointed out that although FFC had communicated with the AJ&K Land Revenue Department, however no response had been received so far. Therefore, it was decided that FFC would write a letter to the Chief Secretary, AJ&K, for taking action for removal of encroachments from the floodplains in AJ&K.

10. The Chair directed the representatives of AJ&K and GB to submit a consolidated report detailing all existing encroachments in the floodplains and along the bunds, clearly defining *critical* and *non-critical* encroachments. The Chair pointed out that information received from the four provinces yet lacked clarity regarding coordinates and their removal as pointed out by the representative of SUPARCO.

11. The Chair then invited PMD representative to update about latest weather situation. Director, National Weather Forecasting Center, Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), briefed the forum on the weather outlook for April–June 2025, keeping in view prevailing hydrological conditions, and PMD's preparedness for the Flood Early Warning System for Monsoon 2025. He informed that based on PMD's forecasting models, below-normal rainfall was expected in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Northern Punjab, and AJ&K, while most parts of Sindh and Balochistan were likely to experience normal precipitation. He added that due to the anticipated dry spell, water resources would remain under stress, therefore, PMD had already issued a "Drought Alert" in January 2025.

12. Regarding forecast about temperatures, representative of PMD stated that above-normal temperatures were forecasted for the coming three months. This could accelerate snowmelt, leading to higher inflows in snow-fed rivers and streams. He further stated that winter 2024-25 witnessed less snowfall as compared to the previous three years. Based on model projections, water availability in major reservoirs such as Tarbela and Mangla was expected to remain below normal levels upto September 30, 2025.

13. On a query regarding functioning of early warning system, he stated that PMD was currently utilizing data from three operational weather radars (Islamabad, Karachi, and Mardan). He informed that PMD also operated a network of 102 Automatic Weather Stations (AWS), 114 manual observation stations.

14. Representative of PMD requested real-time and uninterrupted sharing of rivers flow data from WAPDA and Provincial Irrigation Departments throughout the monsoon season. He also informed the forum that with World Bank support, PMD was installing 300 new AWS and five (05) new radars (Quetta, Gwadar, Lahore, D.I. Khan, and Cherat) to enhance forecasting capabilities. On a query, he informed that routine maintenance of all PMD forecasting equipment was underway and would be completed before the start of the monsoon.

15. Provincial Irrigation Department (PID) Punjab reported that contingency plans for all 59 divisions had been prepared and were undergoing departmental review prior to submission to the Federal Flood Commission (FFC). Joint inspections of all bunds and vulnerable locations by field engineers were ongoing and expected to be concluded by April 30, 2025. Similarly, the Hydraulic Structure Safety Evaluation Unit (HSSEU) was also inspecting all major hydraulic structures, which was targeted to be completed by April 30. Also repair and rehabilitation of weak or damaged sections will be completed by June 30, 2025.

16. In response to a query from the Chair regarding encroachments, the PID Punjab representative stated that all critical encroachments impeding hindrance in river flow had been removed, while work on clearing non-critical encroachments was in progress. The Chair directed removal of all encroachments in accordance with the Punjab Floodplain Regulation Act, 2016, regardless of their perceived criticality flood plains limit as per Punjab Act.

17. Head of Climatology and Environment, GCSIC shared that over the past three years, the average temperature rise had been 1.55°C, exceeding the target set under the *United Nations Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction* (UNSFDRR). He added that Pakistan experienced the

consequences of that trend, as exemplified by the 2022 floods. He emphasized the urgent need for robust planning and preparedness to combat the impacts of extreme climate events.

18. Representative of Tarbela Dam Project (WAPDA) reported that all monsoon preparations, including equipment inspections and material stockpiles, would be completed by 1st June 2025. He added that current water levels and hydrological conditions were below normal range.

19. Representative of Mangla Dam Organization (WAPDA) stated that mock flood mitigation exercise will be conducted at El. 1220 ft SPD. Also Mangla Flood Mitigation Committee would be notified by June 15, 2025, further Flood Information & Regulation Centre would operate round-the-clock during the monsoon.

20. Representative of H&R Directorate (WAPDA) reported that out of 46 Flood Telemetry Stations 39 were operational and out of 13 Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) only 05 were operational however, repair of remaining telemetry and AWS would be completed before monsoon 2025.

21. Representative of PID Balochistan informed the forum that machinery, manpower, and flood fighting materials were being deployed at vulnerable locations. Control rooms were being established at district and divisional headquarters to facilitate real-time flood reporting throughout Monsoon Season 2025.

22. Representative of Irrigation & Water Management Department, Gilgit-Baltistan reported that pre-monsoon inspections and preventive measures were underway and would be completed before the monsoon begins.

23. Director General, GBDMA briefed the forum about the ongoing pre monsoon preparations in GB. He informed that necessary stockpiling had been started at strategic locations. In order to chalk out a summer contingency plan consultative meetings had been started at district level.

24. Director General, Irrigation & Small Dams (AJ&K) stated that inspections and repairs of flood protection infrastructure across AJK were ongoing and will be completed ahead of Monsoon 2025.

25. NDMA representative expressed his concern over encroachments along the Kabul River in Charsadda, Swabi, and Nowshera (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa). He also referred the findings of ADB and World Bank reports after devastating floods of 2022 regarding these encroachments and requested for their removal before Monsoon Season 2025.

26. After detailed discussions, following decisions were taken:

- i. Provincial Irrigation Departments (PIDs) of Punjab, Sindh, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan, Irrigation and Small Dams Organization of AJ&K and Irrigation and Water Management Department Gilgit-Baltistan will submit comprehensive report on encroachment to FFC including on all rivers/nullah/stream, their removal status with coordinates, timeline for removal of remaining encroachments alongwith definition of

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critical and non-critical encroachments within (10) ten days for further submission of the same to the Senate Standing Committee on Water Resources.

- ii. PIDs/FLAs/PDMAs/GBDMA/SDMA, NHA and Pak Railways will expedite finalization of their respective Contingency Plans for Monsoon Season 2025. Hard and soft copies of Contingency Plans will be shared with FFC for uploading on its website as well.
- iii. PIDs and FLAs will share with FFC the details of vulnerable locations of all Streams/nullahs/rivers to respective Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PMDAs, GB-DMA, SDMA) for contingency planning, rescue and Relief operations in case of flooding.
- iv. Provincial Irrigation Departments and Federal Line Agencies will ensure completion of all approved and ongoing flood protection schemes taken up under PSDP and Provincial ADP, besides, 2022 Flood Damages Restoration before onset of Monsoon Season 2025.
- v. PID Sindh, Balochistan, Irrigation & Water Management Department, Gilgit-Baltistan and Irrigation & Small Dams Organization, AJ&K will ensure early approval and enactment of their respective Provincial Flood Management/ River Acts.
- vi. PID Khyber Pakhtunkhwa will share the coordinates of encroachment reportedly removed from the rivers/streams/nullahs to FFC for further verification by the SUPARCO.
- vii. Mangla Dam Organization, MDO WAPDA will share with FFC, the Contingency Plan for operation of Emergency Spillway of Mangla Reservoir in collaboration with Engineers 1-Corps Mangla.
- viii. PID Punjab including NHA, Pak Railways will ensure arrangements of explosive and related required material at sites of pre-determined breaching sections and also arrangement of stone reserve stock/ flood fighting material at all critical reaches of flood embankments and the sites identified as a result of pre-flood inspection before the onset of Monsoon Season 2025.
- ix. WAPDA and PMD will ensure completion of all essential repairs/maintenance of equipment relating to river flood telemetry, Flood Forecasting & Warning System before 30th June 2025 under intimation to FFC.
- x. WAPDA (H & R Directorate) will share the real time data of gauging stations in upper Indus operated and maintained by the Glacier Monitoring Research Center (GMRC) WAPDA with PMD for better accuracy of the early warning system of PMD.
- xi. WASA Rawalpindi will complete all necessary de-silting works of critical sections of Lai Nullah well before the start of Monsoon 2025.
- xii. No representative from Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC) and Karachi Development Authority (KDA) attended the meeting. FFC will follow up with KMC and KDA for completing necessary preparation with respect to monsoon 2025.
- xiii. FFC will follow-up with Chief Secretary, Govt. of AJ&K with reference to earlier D.O letter for immediate removal of encroachments in the waterways through the concerned department.

27. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by the Chair.

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**1ST PRE-MONSOON MEETING OF FEDERAL FLOOD COMMISSION (FFC)
REGARDING PREPAREDNESS FOR MONSOON SEASON 2025 IN THE
COMMITTEE ROOM OF OFFICE OF CEA/ CFFC", HELD ON 9TH APRIL 2025**

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

FEDERAL FLOOD COMMISSION, ISLAMABAD

1. **Mr. Ather Hameed**
Chief Engineering Advisor/ Chairman FFC
2. Dr. M. Ejaz Tanveer
Superintending Engineer (Floods)
3. Mr. Muhammad Hanif Chachar
Principal River Engineer
4. Mr. Hussain Shigri
Senior Engineer (Floods)

In Chair

INDUS RIVER SYSTEM AUTHORITY (IRSA), ISLAMABAD

5. Mr. Jalil Ahmed Soomro
Senior Engineer (Operations)

NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY, ISLAMABAD

6. Col. Ali Imran
Director Response
7. Mr. Hassan Raza
Manager Operations

ENGINEERS DIRECTORATE, GHQ, RAWALPINDI

8. Maj. Harris Saeed
G-2, Operations

PAKISTAN METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT (PMD), ISLAMABAD

9. Dr. Zaheer Ahmed Babar
Chief Meteorologist

WATER & POWR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (WAPDA), LAHORE

10. Mr. Tanveer Ahmed Sheikh
Project Director (H&R) (Online)
11. Mr. Abdul Latif (Online)
Ex-Engineer
12. Syed Ali Haider
Superintending Engineer (S&H)
Tarbela Dam Project
13. Mr. Faizan Hyder Shah
Superintending Engineer (Hydrology)
Mangla Dam Organization

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF THE PUNJAB, LAHORE

14. Mr. Abdul Rehman
Deputy Director (Mechanical)
MSSEU

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF SINDH, KARACHI

15. Mr. Sajid Ali Bhutto (Online)
Acting Secretary/Special Secretary (Tech.)

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA, PESHAWAR

16. Mr. Anwar Kamal (Online)
Superintending Engineer (HQ-North)

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF BALOCHISTAN, QUETTA

17. Bashir Uddin Tareen
Chief Engineer

IRRIGATION & SMALL DAMS ORGANIZATION, AJ&K, MUZAFFARABAD

18. Mr. Ajaz Hussain Khawja
Director General

PROVINCIAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (PDMA), PUNJAB, LAHORE

19. Mr. Nisar Ahmed Sani
Director Operations

PROVINCIAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (PDMA), KPK, PESHAWAR

20. Mr. Saeed Nawab (**Online**)
Deputy Director (D&M)

GB DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (GBDMA), GILGIT

21. Mr. Zakir Hussain
Director General

NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY (NHA), ISLAMABAD

22. Mr. Masood Ahmad
Director (Highway Safety)
23. Mr. Muhammad Farooq
Deputy Director (RAMD-II)
24. Mr. Fawad Raza
Trainee Engineer

WATER & SANITATION AGENCY (WASA), RAWALPINDI

25. Mr. Saddun Basra
Deputy Director (S&D)

FOREST DEPARTMENT, KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA, PESHAWAR

26. Syed Rizwan Kazmi
DFO

GLOBAL CLIMATE IMPACT STUDY CENTRE (GCISC), ISLAMABAD

27. Mr. Shahbaz Mehmood
Head (Climate & Environment)

SUPARCO

28. Mr. Mathiullah Jan (**Online**)