



BUSINESS
RECORDER

Date: 30-Oct-2011

Flood-hit people President convenes meeting today

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari on Saturday has a long discussion with legislators, district administration of flood affected areas and irrigation authorities on dewatering in flood affected areas of Sindh through video conferencing from Control Centre at Bilawal House Karachi and convened a special meeting on Sunday (today) to further discuss dewatering issue with Ministry of Water and Power, Wapda, experts and international consultants, appointed for this purpose.

International experts will submit the Master Plan for drainage to handle similar calamities in the provinces in future.

During the Sunday's video conferencing President visited districts of Sanghar, Mirpurkhas, Umerkot, Tando Allahyar, T M Khan, Matiari, Nausheroferoz, Badin and Khairpur and interacted with the government and MNAs, Senators, MPAs and DCOs of these areas.

The conference was informed that an international assistance of Rs 18 billion has so far been committed for the flood affectees 2011.

In compliance with President's directive the NDMA and PDMA have placed details of relief measures provided to affectees so far on their website, which is open for public, it was further informed.

President was also informed that an overall Master Plan is being prepared for the entire province of Sindh to deal with

similar calamities in future because of fears that this cycle may continue for a few years as a result of climatic change.

President Zardari directed Wapda to prepare a similar master plan for the province of Balochistan, which has also been partially affected during recent floods.

President said that he would soon be visiting the flood-affected areas once again to see for himself the relief measures taken and to be with the people in distress.

The President also called upon the affluent people of society to step forward and to generously help the poor people who had been affected by the floods so that they are also able to enjoy the Eid celebrations like rest of the people.

The President especially inquired about progress made in the distribution of Pakistan Cards among the affectees. The President was informed that additional Nadra staff was working with provincial component of Disaster Management Authority and Government of Sindh to expedite setting up more centres for processing and distribution of Pakistan Cards.

The President directed to expedite the procedure so that more people could be catered before the Eid.

President during video conferencing also visited the NDMA website and inspected the availability of procurement information, which has been made available on website.

It may be recalled that NDMA while submitting its compliance report of the President's earlier directives has informed the Presidency that it worked out a comprehensive mechanism for procurements and ensuring uninterrupted supply chain management for the flood affectees.

The NDMA has made available on internet all the data concerning details of vendors, purchase orders, goods procured, unit price, quantity procured, payments and even the cheque numbers issued against each payment.

The President appreciated NDMA's effort and called for the need for the other departments to follow the precedent of making all information of public concern available for easy access of the public.

The President also directed all the concerned district officials to facilitate the farmers of their areas and to ensure availability of wheat seed to them for the Rabi crop 2011-12.

The President said that any delay in the distribution mechanism would adversely affect the farmer and will not be tolerated, he continued. The President was informed that dewatering process of the stagnated water has almost been completed in the most affected areas.

The President also recalled his earlier directive for carrying out a comprehensive study to examine feasibility of diverting flood waters to the natural catchments areas and called for its early implementation.—NNI

30-10-2011



FOUNDED BY GUARDIAN-AZAM MOHAMMAD ALI JIHANI

DAWN

Master plan for flood control discussed

By Shamim-ur-Rahman DCOs concerned.

KARACHI, Oct 29: Through video links, President Asif Ali Zardari on Saturday discussed with legislators, district officials and irrigation authorities a master plan for controlling future floods.

He convened a special meeting on Sunday (today) to discuss issues of dewatering with the officials of ministry of water and power, Wapda and international consultants appointed for the purpose.

The foreign experts will submit a master plan for a drainage system to handle future calamities in Sindh.

The president obtained information about floodwaters and relief measures in Sanghar, Mirpurkhas, Umerkot, Tando Allahyar, T.M. Khan, Matiari, Naushero Feroze, Badin and Khairpur districts and interacted with MNAs, Senators, MPAs and

The conference was informed that an international assistance of Rs18 billion has so far been committed for flood-affected people.

In compliance with the president's directive, the NDMA and PDMA placed details of relief measures provided to affected people on their website which is open for public.

The president was informed that a master plan was being prepared for the entire province of Sindh to deal with similar calamities in future because of fears that this cycle may continue for a few years as a result of climatic change.

President Zardari directed Wapda to prepare a similar master plan for Balochistan which has been partially affected during the recent floods.

The President said that he would soon visit flood-affected areas once again to see the

relief measures taken and to be with the people in distress.

He inquired about progress made in the distribution of Pakistan Cards among affected people.

The President called upon the affluent people to generously help the poor people who had been affected by floods so that they were able to enjoy Eid celebrations like other people.

The President inquired about progress made in the distribution of Pakistan Cards among people hit by the flood.

He was informed that additional Nadra staff was working with provincial component of the Disaster Management Authority and the Sindh government to expedite setting up more centers for processing and distribution of Pakistan Cards.

The President directed to expedite the procedure so that more people could be catered

before Eid.

The NDMA while submitting its compliance report on the President's earlier directives informed that it worked out a comprehensive mechanism for procurements and ensuring uninterrupted supply chain management for the flood-affected people.

The NDMA made available on internet all the data concerning details of vendors, purchase orders, goods procured, unit price, quantity procured, payments and even cheque numbers issued against each payment.

The President directed district officials concerned to facilitate farmers of their areas and to ensure availability of wheat seed to them for the 2011-12 Rabi crop.

He said that any delay in the distribution mechanism would adversely affect the farmers and would not be tolerated.