



# Government of Sindh

## Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA)

Page 1

NEWSLETTER

Volume: 02/2019

### Message from the Director General

It gives me an immense pleasure in presenting the second edition of our 2019 Newsletter which shows the continuation of untiring efforts by PDMA Sindh towards safety of public and necessary steps towards resilience from disasters.

During second quarter of the year, amongst other challenges PDMA Sindh also countered the challenge of heatwave which was tackled in a precise manner that saved a large number of people.

PDMA Sindh stands firm on its commitment towards safety of public and is working day and night with the help of World Bank funded Sindh Resilience Project in introducing measures and creating a

resilient environment for public from disasters.

PDMA Sindh under the directions of Government of Sindh is also working with other concerned Departments and consultants on the establishment of Rescue 1122 services which will prove as savior for the people of Sindh and the metropolitan city of Karachi would be the initial beneficiary of this service.

On behalf of the staff of PDMA Sindh, I once again assure total devotion and commitment within the available resources of PDMA Sindh towards well being and safety of the people of Sindh.

*Syed Salman Shah*

*DG PDMA Sindh*



**Syed Salman Shah**  
**Director General**  
**PDMA-Sindh**

### Relocation of PDMA Sindh Headquarters and SRP(PDMA Component)

Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Sindh has relocated its headquarter to a new premises. Sind Resilience Project (PDMA Component) has also been relocated in the same building of PDMA Sindh to increase the working relationship

and coordination between SRP (PDMA Component) and PDMA Sindh.

The new address may be noted for any correspondence.

***“PDMA Sindh Headquarters,  
26-C, Jami Commercial area,  
Khyaban-E-Jami, Phase - VII,  
DHA, Karachi.”***

### **Chief Secretary Sindh chairs an important meeting on Rescue 1122 Services**

On 16th of April 2019, Chief Secretary Sindh Mumtaz Ali Shah chaired an important meeting on establishment of Rescue 1122 Services. In the meeting it was decided that, Sindh Rescue Service would be initiated from Karachi and in this regard draft of Sindh Rescue Services Act 2019 would be sent to the Cabinet and Sindh Assembly for its approval.

In first phase, 30 stations amongst which 15 stations with fire fighting capabilities and 6 stations with Rescue capabilities will be established in Karachi. The meeting was attended by Senior Member Board of Revenue, Secretary Finance Sindh, Secretary Rehabilitation Sindh, DG PDMA Sindh and others.

### **Awareness session on heat wave preparedness**

On 20th of April 2019, Provincial Disaster Management Authority Sindh, in collaboration with Fire Protection Association of Pakistan (FPAP) and Pakistan Red Crescent (PRC) Sindh organized an awareness session on heat wave Preparedness at Hilal-e-Ahmar house in Clifton, Karachi. A large number of students from University Of Karachi participated in the session. A team of doctors from Emergency Response Team of Pakistan Red Crescent Society delivered lectures & gave presentation on heat wave preparedness and various methods to counter heat stroke.

Director (Operations) PDMA Sindh, Shafiq Sheikh, who was Chief Guest on the occasion, distributed certificates amongst the participants. The training was attended by the students of Karachi University and various welfare organizations.

### **Necessary Preparations to counter heatstroke**

On 29th of April 2019, PDMA Sindh made necessary preparations to counter heatstroke in lieu of the weather forecast by Pakistan Meteorological Department. Necessary guidelines were issued to all relevant departments/authorities for implementation during heat wave. Meetings were conducted with district administrations, NGO's and welfare organizations to develop mechanism for establishment of heat wave camps. PDMA Sindh also coordinated with HANDS, Saylani Welfare Organization and Alamgir Welfare trust to assist district administration in establishing 83 camps identified by concerned Deputy Commissioners. Around 900 volunteers were also trained by Pakistan Red Crescent and K-Electric to help heatstroke patients.

### **Provision of Paraphernalia to counter heat wave**

On 6th of May 2019, in order to counter heat wave, PDMA Sindh provided various items to the district administrations in Karachi to avoid heat stroke and also help suffering patients. Leaflets, posters and banners mentioning symptoms and measures to prevent heatstroke were provided to Commissioner Karachi and all Deputy Commissioners of the city to paste & distribute the same at the locations of interest.

Likewise, mist fans, pedestal fans, folding beds, towels, bed sheets and pillows were also provided to the Deputy Commissioners for distribution amongst public & other important places and utilization of the same at heatstroke camps to facilitate public.

### **Handing over of heat wave resilience items to MS Govt Hospital Korangi**

On 8th of May 2019, Director (Operations) PDMA Sindh accompanied by Deputy Director (HQs) PDMA, Deputy Director (Operations) PDMA and Assistant Commissioner Korangi visited Sindh Government hospital Korangi. During visit various items including posters, pamphlets, banner and mist fan were handed over to the Medical Superintendent Dr. Seema Jaffery as a resilience measure against heat wave.

### **Handing over of heat wave resilience items to Executive Director JPMC**

On 9th of May 2019, Deputy Director (HQ) PDMA Sindh visited Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Center, Karachi. During visit various items including posters and pamphlets were handed over to the Executive Director JPMC Dr. Seemi Jamali as a resilience measure against heat wave.

### **Fourth World Reconstruction Conference (WRC4)**

The fourth World Reconstruction Conference (WRC4) was held in Geneva, Switzerland on May 13-14, 2019 under the theme "Inclusion for Resilient Recovery." The WRC4 was aimed to bring together experts, practitioners and stakeholders from various institutions and community-based organizations. The overall goal of the WRC4 was to build consensus and to renew and accelerate efforts towards realizing inclusive recovery processes. The conference discussed the challenges and inherent biases in the process of recovery and the reasons for which certain population groups are systematically excluded. DG PDMA Sindh Syed Salman Shah was invited as panelist in the technical session of WRC-4 where he presented the salient challenges in the Province & the counter measures being undertaken to overcome the challenges.

### **Sixth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GP2019)**

DG PDMA Sindh Syed Salman Shah attended the sixth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GP2019) which was held in Geneva, Switzerland from 15th to 17th of May, 2019, convened and organized by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and hosted by the Government of Switzerland. The session was co-chaired by Switzerland and UNDRR. GP2019 represented the next important opportunity for the international community to boost the implementation of the Sendai Framework related goals of the 2030 Agenda, as well as commitments of the Paris Climate Agreement. It was also the last global gathering for all stakeholders before the deadline for achieving Target E of the Sendai Framework: to substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020.

### **DG PDMA Sindh visits WSL Institute for snow and avalanche research**

DG PDMA Sindh Syed Salman Shah visited WSL institute for snow and avalanche research in Davos, Switzerland on 18th of May 2019. The visit comprised a number of presentations by the institute on snow and avalanche research and methods to ensure safety of public during any such mishap.

### **Preparations for tropical storm “VAYU” in the Arabian sea**

On 12th of June 2019, PDMA Sindh in response to cyclone alert issued by Pakistan Meteorological Department dated:12-06-2019, issued a cyclone alert and advisory to all Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners and Municipal Commissioners of the Province.

In the letter, advise on precautionary measures was also sent to Home Department, Local Government Department, Livestock and Fisheries Department, K-Electric, HESCO, Cantonment Boards and Municipal Committees/Union Councils.

Emergency control room was established at PDMA Sindh Headquarters to monitor cyclone “VAYU” round the clock and report any changes or threats to the concerned authorities. The control room played a vital role in monitoring and coordinating with Pakistan Meteorological Department on the updates of the cyclone.

Provincial Disaster Management Authority (Sindh) also provided relief items for immediate response to vulnerable districts of Sindh i.e. Districts Tharparkar, Badin, Thatta and Sujawal. Relief items containing 300 tents and 1500 mosquito nets for each district respectively were handed over to the concerned Deputy Commissioners.

### **Awareness Event on Effects of Climate Change**

On 20th of June 2019, An awareness event on effects of climate change was arranged at a local hotel by Sindh Environmental Protection Agency in collaboration with PDMA Sindh, WWF Pakistan and Oxfam. Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Sindh was Chief Guest in the event. DG PDMA Sindh Syed Salman Shah also participated in the event and while addressing the participants, he highlighted on the impact of climate change and emphasized on the importance of preventive measures to save climate.

### **Contract signing between PDMA Sindh and SUPARCO on MHVRA & DMIS**

On 27th of June 2019, PDMA Sindh and SUPARCO signed a contract to carry out Multi Hazard Vulnerability Risk Assessment (MHVRA) and creation of Disaster Management Information System (DMIS). DG PDMA Sindh Syed Salman Shah & Secretary SUPARCO Dr. Atif Ali signed the contract on behalf of their organizations.

Secretary Rehabilitation Department Riaz Hussain Soomro, Director (Operations) PDMA Sindh, World Bank country staff were also present to witness signing ceremony.

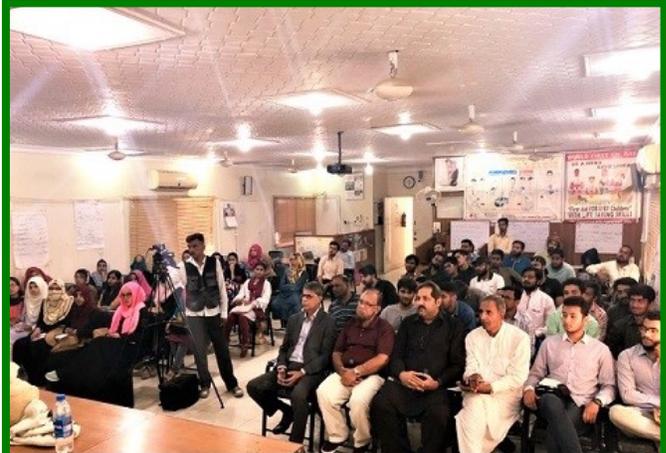
### **Chairman NDMA visit to PDMA Sindh**

Chairman National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Lieutenant General Muhammad Afzal, HI(M), visited PDMA Sindh headquarters on 28-06-2019. Upon arrival, the Chairman was received by Secretary Rehabilitation Department Riaz Hussain Soomro and DG PDMA Sindh Syed Salman Shah. During visit, Chairman NDMA was briefed on the working capacity of PDMA Sindh and a presentation was given on various aspects including present and future undertakings of PDMA Sindh, Monsoon preparations, briefing on Multi Hazard Vulnerability Risk Assessment (MHVRA), challenges being faced by PDMA Sindh and recommendations for improving the working capacity and coordination between PDMA Sindh and NDMA.

While talking to media after the meeting, Chairman NDMA said that he had a detailed discussion with PDMA Sindh on urban flooding and expected Monsoon downpours and he further assured full cooperation of NDMA to PDMA Sindh for any help if and when required.



**Karachi 16-04-2019**  
Chief Secretary Sindh Mumtaz Ali Shah chairing an important meeting on Rescue 1122 Services.



**Karachi 20-04-2019:**  
Awareness Session on heatwave Preparedness by PDMA Sindh.



**Karachi 20-04-2019:**  
Director(Operations) PDMA Sindh distributing certificates amongst participants of Awareness Session on heatwave preparedness.



**Karachi 08-05-2019:**  
PDMA Sindh handing over heat wave resilience items to MS Sindh Govt Hospital Korangi.



**Karachi 08-05-2019:**  
PDMA Sindh handing over heat wave resilience items to MS Sindh Govt Hospital Korangi.



**Karachi 09-05-2019:**  
Deputy Director (HQ) PDMA Sindh handing over heat wave resilience items to Executive Director JPMC, Karachi.



**Geneva 13-05-2019:**  
DG PDMA Sindh Syed Salman Shah at the sixth session of Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva, Switzerland.



**Davos 18-05-2019:**  
DG PDMA Sindh Syed Salman Shah during visit to WSL Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research in Davos, Switzerland.



**Karachi 20-06-2019:**  
DG PDMA Sindh Syed Salman Shah addressing the Awareness Event on "Effects of Climate Change" in Karachi.



**Karachi 27-06-2019:**  
Contract signing ceremony between PDMA Sindh and SUPARCO on MHVRA & DMIS.



**Karachi 28-06-2019:**  
Chairman NDMA Lt Gen Muhammad Afzal HI(M), during meeting with Secretary Rehabilitation Department Riaz Hussain Soomro & DG PDMA Syed Salman Shah.



**Karachi 28-06-2019:**  
Chairman NDMA Lt Gen Muhammad Afzal HI(M), chairing meeting with PDMA Sindh.

### **Completion of Capacity Assessment for PDMA Sindh and DDMA's in Sindh**

Sindh Resilience Project (PDMA Component) had engaged a suitable qualified firm to carry out a comprehensive capacity assessment study for Provincial Disaster Management Authority Sindh (PDMA) and District Disaster Management Authorities (DDMA's), has been completed and the proposals have been sent to concerned corners for implementation. The final report comprised of Organizational Capacity Assessment, Training Needs Assessment and Capacity Enhancement Plan. The findings and the recommendations from the study will help in institutional capacity development of PDMA Sindh and DDMA's.

### **Multi-Hazard Vulnerability Risk Assessment (MHVRA) Study**

MHVRA is a comprehensive study which intends to evaluate the expected vulnerabilities, risks and losses due to different hazardous events. Realizing Sindh's vulnerability to impending hazards coupled with other natural and anthropogenic events, coordinated approach was required to be undertaken for efficient and integrated procedures for hazard and risk reduction. SRP(PDMA component) is conducting MHVRA study in the Province with the following objectives:

- Data analytics on major hazards including but not limited to floods, urban flooding, droughts and climate change related disasters.
- Preparation of MHVRA informed disaster management plan for all districts under study and provincial level plan.
- Development and operationalization of Disaster Management Information System.

### **Capacity Building of PDMA, DDMA's & Line Departments through curriculum development and trainings**

Sindh Resilience Project (PDMA Component) has initiated a comprehensive capacity development program comprising of a combination of national & international trainings, workshops, interactive sessions knowledge sharing and exposure/study visits. This would enhance the capacity of PDMA, DDMA's, Line Departments and concerned Government entities to increase disaster resilience and adopt a more pro active approach by training of key officials on concepts of overall spectrum of disaster management and practical implementation of disaster management activities.

### **Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) model for Sindh**

Sindh Resilience Project (PDMA Component) is planning to build the capacities of local government officials from line departments and community volunteers on the CBDRM approach. The SRP(PDMA) is developing a system of CBDRM model for PDMA Sindh for its future CBDRM activities.

In this regard, the process for hiring of eligible consultancy firm has been finalized and CBDRM model would play a vital role in capacitating communities to respond as initial responders to any untoward event.