

Secretary PHE, I&FC takes review of irrigation, water supply schemes in Budgam

Directs regular drinking water supply, restoration of defunct projects

Budgam, July 30: Secretary PHE, I&FC Farooq Ahmad Shah today directed the concerned to ensure regular portable drinking water supply to people in Budgam.

This was stated by the Secretary while chairing a meeting of officers at New Conference Hall in Budgam. During the meeting the Secretary took an in-depth review of various water supply schemes and ongoing projects including Sukhnag-II.

At the outset, the DDC Budgam Dr. Syed Sehrish Asgar briefed the meeting about various problems faced by the people in Budgam particularly scarcity of drinking water facility, blockages of irrigation channels/ canals and submerging of roads due to incessant rains in low lying areas.

Among others, the meeting was attended by the CE PHE Abdul Wahid, CE I&FC MM Shahnawaz, Superintending Engineers, Executive Engineers and other officers from the engineering wings.

While stressing on the regular supply of fresh drinking water to all areas of the district, the Secretary directed concerned to identify the areas presently locals are facing shortage of drinking water facility, so that hand pumps are installed, particularly Narbal, Mahawara, Rakh Arath and Surpora villages.

The Secretary also directed the concerned to ensure proper irrigation facilities to the farmers and asked officers to take strenuous efforts in restoring all the irrigation channels by removing extracts and encroachments on them by the people. He said that officers would

conduct field visits to keep check on the encroachments of irrigation canals.

While emphasizing on conducting awareness camps about the save and judicious use of drinking water the Secretary directed on sensitization of field staff and PHE casual labours to be punctual to their duties so that they shall monitor and ensure regular supply of drinking water and irrigation facility in their respective areas.

He also directed the officers to take strict action against the employees for dereliction of their duties.

He further asked the concerned officers to maintain tour dairies of their field visits and submit the progress reports in the DDC office on weekly basis.

Meanwhile, the Secretary directed for judicious utilization of funds and make expenditures as per the availability only to avoid creation of unprecedented liabilities.

He directed the concerned to prepare the DPRs of all the defunct water supply scheme and irrigation facility projects in the district and submit same to the government at an earliest so that their revival and restoration process is taken up accordingly.

While taking review of the flood protection scenario/schemes, the Secretary directed timely strengthening of vulnerable embankments of rivers and flood channels and asked concerned to ensure availability of sand bags in all low lying areas of the district including Bemina, Hamdaniya Colony, Durbal, Narbal, Narkara and Rakh Shalina.