

CM Sindh directs KWSB to launch operation against water theft, illegal connections

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah presiding over a meeting of Karachi Water & Sewerage Board (KWSB) has decided to launch a vigorous operation against water theft so that water could be supplied to the starving areas of the city.

"The KWSB has to improve its overall performance by ushering in the best professional practices in its entire system right from administration to water distribution, revenue collection to enhancing revenue resources, reducing line losses to completion of its projects in time."

Syed Murad Ali Shah said that the KWSB is responsible for production, transmission, and distribution of water to the people of Karachi. "Therefore, it will have to demonstrate its professionalism in its working and services," the CM said.

The meeting was attended by Minister Local Government Nasir Shah, Minister Labour Saeed Ghani, Administrator Karachi Murtaza Wahab, Chief Secretary Sohail Rajput, CM Special Assistant Waqar Mehdi, Najmi Alam, Principal Secretary to CM Fayaz Jatoi, Secretary LG Najam Shah, former MD Water Board Asadullah Khan, MD Water Board, and chief engineers here at CM House on Friday.

Nasir Shah briefing the chief minister on system related issues said that overall water supply to Karachi city was around 406 MGD against a demand of 1000 MGD. He added that water distribution network out-lived water system laid decades back. "Weak Water Pipe Joints causing wastages / Leakages of water. Giving details of available

water supply, the local govt minister said that KWSB took 450 MGD water from Dhabeji, 100 MGD from Hub and 30 MGD Gharo. "In this way we have 580 MDG, of which 30 percent or 174 MGD goes waste in line losses that means 406 MGD is available for the city," he calculated.

It may be noted that 40 gallons of water per capita for 25 million population/water users of the city comes to 1000 MGD.

According to Syed Nasir Shah the last addition in bulk water supply source was made in 2007 of 100 MGD through the K-III project. "Power Break Down problem at Dhabeji, Gharo or Hub results in immediate reduction in supply," he said and added "change of land use (residential to commercial) unbalanced drawl of water from existing inventory in street/roads."

The meeting was told that the water demand in each District/town has increased twice against water supplied. The consumers close to water mains/pumping stations draw water of their need, but tail enders or elevated areas consumers are not getting water for short supply.

At this the chief minister asking a cross question from the local govt minister and water board team said that when there was such a huge shortage of 594 MGD in the city how people were meeting it. They replied through water tankers. At this the CM said it meant that water was available in the system from where the tankers were supplying water to meet the demand.

Nasir Shah said that all the illegal hydrants have been eliminated and

only six legal hydrants were in operation. At this the chief minister said that the tankers were not going to Keejhar or River Indus to fetch water. "They are stealing water from the water board system," the CM said.

Syed Murad Ali Shah directed the chief secretary to coordinate with Rangers, Police, and other related agencies to start a decisive operation against the water theft in the city. "I want you [KWSB] to take action against the consumers who have installed heavy pumps over water supply pipes and illegal water connection from the main pipes," he said. Syed Murad Ali Shah directed the water board administration to expedite their schemes for adding more water in the system and up-gradation of distribution system and replacement of old pipes with new ones. "a 65 MGD additional water supply scheme of Rs 9.1 billion, rehabilitation of Hub canal and installation of five MGD desalination project under PPP mode should be taken up on fast pace," he said and added the KWSB must improve its performance in terms of its services, revenue generation, professionalism to handle the entire operation. The chief minister said that the water distribution system of KWSB was so defective that some areas of the city were receiving water round the clock while various others were waiting for over weeks.

"This system needs to be made judicious," he said and directed KWSB to prepare a zoning plan for water distribution at water trunk main level and town distribution network to provide water up to the

دوسرے بڑے ملے بڑی بیلائی / آکشن
Tender No. PCMMDC/Admin-1/A/O 2022 23

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1	120,875,648	2	1,491,199	3	8,240,900
4	146,199,000	5	11,747,300	6	14,816,500
7	11,747,300	8	14,816,500	9	77,888,884
10	14,816,500	11	77,888,884	12	1,491,199
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289	1,491,199	290	1,491,199	291	1,491,199
292	1,491,199	293	1,491,199	294	1,491,199
295	1,491,199	296	1,491,199	297	1,491,199
298	1,491,199	299	1,491,199	300	1,491,199

Food prices ease slightly in April after record surge, says UN

ROME: World food prices eased slightly in April after hitting a record high in March, but global food security remained a concern because of the difficult market conditions, UN food agency said.

The Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) food price index, which tracks the most globally traded food commodities, averaged 158.5 points last month versus an upwardly revised 159.7 for March.

The March figure was previously put at 159.3.

"The small decrease in the index is a welcome relief, particularly for low-income food-deficit countries, but still food prices remain close to their recent highs, reflecting persistent market tightness and posing a challenge to global food security for the most vulnerable," said FAO Chief Economist Maximo Torero Cullen.

Although it declined month-on-month, the April index was 29.8 per cent higher than a year earlier, pushed up in part by concerns over the impact of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

The agency's cereal price index fell 0.7 per cent in April after a 17 per cent jump in March. While maize prices dropped 3.0 per cent, wheat prices rose 0.2 per cent. FAO said wheat was hit by the blockage of ports in Ukraine and worries over crop conditions in the United States. However, these concerns were partially offset by larger shipments from India and higher-than-expected exports from Russia. FAO's vegetable oil price index dropped 5.7 per cent in April, as demand rationing pushed down prices for palm, sunflower and soy oils. Sugar prices increased 3.3 per cent, the meat price index rose 2.2 per cent and the dairy index added 0.9 per cent.

In separate cereal supply and demand estimates on Friday, the FAO slightly cut its projection of world wheat production in 2022 to 782 million tonnes, from 784 million last month. The forecast factored in an expected 20 per cent reduction in the harvested area in Ukraine and a projected decline in output in Morocco because of a drought in the north African state. —AP

SpaceX capsule splashes down, bringing 4 astronauts home after 6-month

NEW YORK: The third long-duration astronaut team launched by SpaceX to the International Space Station (ISS) safely returned to Earth early on Friday (May 6), splashing down in the Gulf of Mexico off Florida to end months of orbital research ranging from space-grown chillies to robots.

The SpaceX Crew Dragon capsule dubbed Endurance, carrying three US NASA astronauts and a European Space Agency (ESA) crewmate from Germany, parachuted into calm seas in darkness at the conclusion of a 23-hour-plus autonomous flight home from the ISS.

Thermal-camera video of the splashdown, at about 12.45am EDT (0445 GMT), was carried live by a joint NASA-SpaceX webcast. The Endurance crew, which began its stay in orbit on Nov 11, consisted of American spaceflight veteran Tom Marshburn, 61, and three first-time astronauts: NASA's Raja Chari, 44, and Kayla Barron, 34, and their ESA colleague Matthias Maurer, 52. Thari could be heard radioing thanks to mission control moments after splashdown.

In less than an hour, the heat-scorched Crew Dragon was hoisted onto a recovery ship before the capsule's side hatch was opened and the four astronauts were helped out one by one for their first breath of fresh air in nearly six months. Still garbed in white-and-black spacesuits, their strength and equilibrium shaky from 175 days in a weightless environment, were assisted onto special gurneys as they waved and gave thumbs-up for cameras. Each was to receive a routine medical checkup aboard the ship before being flown by helicopter back to Florida.

The return from orbit followed a fiery re-entry plunge through Earth's atmosphere, generating frictional heat that sent temperatures outside the capsule soaring to 31,930 degrees Celsius.

Two sets of parachutes billowed open above the capsule in the final stage of descent, slowing its fall to about 15 miles per hour (24 kph) before the craft hit the water off the coast of Tampa, Florida. Applause from the SpaceX flight control centre in suburban Los Angeles was heard over the Webcast. The newly returned astronauts were officially designated as NASA's "Commercial Crew 3". —AFP

COURT NOTICE

In the court of Simra Waheed, Civil Judge, Family Court, District Toba Tek Singh
Suit for dissolution of Nikkah
Simra Parveen VS Muhammad Parveen
Ad for: Muhammad Tanveer S/O Muhammad Ismail S/O Sher Muhammad, caste Gujjar, R/O Chak No 67 JB, Sidhar, Faisalabad, presently living in Istanbul, Turkey.
The court has called you again and again, but the implementation seems difficult, therefore this ad is being issued for you to appear in this court on 09-05-2022 at 8:00 am. Otherwise the action would be taken against you and after that no excuse or objection would be accepted. This ad is being issued with stamp and signature of this court.

COURT NOTICE

In the Court of Mohnsin Ali Civil Judge Sambrial
Suit For Specific Performance Nazir Ahmed VS Said Ahmed etc Notice to Ijaz Ahmed, Intiaz Ahmed Sons, Kalsoom, Nasreen, Naseem Daughters Said Ahmed All R/O Nand Pur P.O Khas Varowala Tehsil Sambrial District Sialkot Presently Living Abroad Whereas service of defendants respondents is not going to be effected through proclamation in the newspaper you defendants respondents are directed to appear in the court on 11/05/22 at 8 am filing which ex-parte proceeding shall be initiated against you.

Trump asked about bombing drug labs in Mexico

WASHINGTON: Donald Trump asked about the possibility of bombing drug trafficking labs in Mexico while he was US president, former defence secretary Mark Esper says in a book set to be released.

According to excerpts cited by the New York Times, Trump believed the United States could pretend it wasn't responsible for launching missiles across its southern border, Esper, who was Pentagon head between July 2019 and November 2020, writes.

In 2020, Trump reportedly asked twice if the military could "shoot missiles into Mexico to destroy the drug labs", Esper writes in his book titled A Sacred Oath.

According to the Times, Esper was left "speechless" at the requests.

Trump dismissed Esper in November 2020, just days after the results of the US presidential election were announced, in which President Joe Biden won.

Trump and Esper's relationship had been strained for months, ever since the defence secretary had publicly opposed

deploying the military to quell anti-racist protests that gripped the country that year. According to reports about other excerpts from Esper's book, Trump, in discussing the demonstrations in June 2020, had asked about the protesters: "Can't you just shoot them?"

Spain offers 'children of Chernobyl' refuge from Ukraine war
When Igor Pavlosky decided to flee Ukraine with his youngest children after bombs began falling, his destination was clear - Spain.

Like thousands of other Ukrainian youths, several of his daughters had spent yearly holidays with host families in Spain since the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

Now these host families are helping to provide a safe haven from the war in Ukraine for these so-called "children of Chernobyl" and their parents.

Pavlosky, 46, says he only reluctantly took up the offer of help and left Kyiv at the end of February because he "had to protect" his children. —Reuters