

Peshawar ()

We are witnessing global climate change yet we have to manage with-in our limited resources to face natural disasters was said by Federal Minister for Climate Change Rana Farooq Saeed Khan in Peshawar at meeting regarding Contingency Planning for Monsoon 2012. Meeting was held at Provincial Disaster Management Authority-PDMA under the co-chairmanship of Rana Farooq Saeed Khan and Provincial Minister for Environment Wajid Ali Khan.

Chief Secretary Ghulam Dastageer, Secretary Rehabilitation Reconstruction & Settlement Rashid Ahmad and Director General Provincial Disaster Management Authority-PDMA, Shahzad Khan Bangash, Chairman National Disaster Management Authority-NDMA Zafar Iqbal Qadir, Federal Secretary Climate change, Provincial Secretaries of relevant departments, Divisional Commissioners and representatives from Fata Disaster Management Authority-FDMA also participated.

Federal Minister for Climate Change Rana Farooq Saeed Khan said that Early Warning System will be established soon on National level and will be implemented on provincial level later in due course of time. He expressed that concrete steps need to be taken considering the possible expected disasters at level of union councils. He admired the efforts and performance of PDMA in relief activities and reestablishing the basic infrastructure after 2010 floods.

Wajid Ali Khan, Provincial Minister for Forests stated that we have to implement strategic planning for effective disaster management. He informed that contingency plans have been devised to minimize the effects of monsoon season in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Ghulam Dastageer Chief Secretary Khyber Pakhtunkhwa assured that measures have been taken to eliminate encroachments on river banks. He re-affirmed the support of Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to facilitate PDMA through all possible means. Knowledge Map System is developed to ensure the reduction of calamities of monsoon. Lack of adequate early warning system is considered a prime reason for excessive damages in natural disasters.

Federal Minister for Climate Change Rana Farooq Saeed Khan along with participants of meeting visited Provincial Emergency Operation Center located in PDMA office. This emergency center will be connected to 10 districts vulnerable to floods and source communication for gathering on-time information in relief activities during floods.

Spokes Person - PDMA