



SENATE OF PAKISTAN

REPORT NO. 3

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES ON

“Point of Public importance raised by Senator Syed Muhammad Sabir Shah “requirement of security walls on Ghazi Barotha Channel road” in its sitting held on 29th September, 2021 referred by the House.”

Presented by:

SENATOR MUSADIK MASOOD MALIK
CHAIRPERSON
STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES

SENATE SECRETARIAT

Subject: REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES.

1. Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Water Resources, have the honor to present report on a Point of Public importance raised by Senator Syed Muhammad Sabir Shah "requirement of security walls on Ghazi Barotha Channel road" in its sitting held on 29th September, 2021 referred by the House.

2. The composition of the Standing Committee is as follows:-

i.	Senator Musadik Masood Malik	Chairman
ii.	Senator Dr. Mohammad Humayun Mohmand	Member
iii.	Senator Gurdeep Singh	Member
iv.	Senator Sana Jamali	Member
v.	Senator Shaukat Fayaz Ahmed Tarin.	Member
vi.	Senator Dr. Sikandar Mandhro	Member
vii.	Senator Taj Haider	Member
viii.	Senator Qurat-ul-Ain Marri	Member
ix.	Senator Sardar Muhammad Shafiq Tareen	Member
x.	Senator Shaheen Khalid Butt	Member
xi.	Senator Ahmed Khan	Member
xii.	Senator Syed Muhammad Sabir Shah	Member
xiii.	Minister for Water Resources	Ex-officio Member

3. The Point of Public Importance was considered in two meetings of the Senate Standing Committee on Water Resources held on 25th February, 2022 and 10th March, 2022. The meeting on 10th March, 2022 was attended by the following members:-

i.	Senator Musadik Masood Malik	Chairman
ii.	Senator Dr. Mohammad Humayun Mohmand	Member
iii.	Senator Sana Jamali	Member
iv.	Senator Taj Haider	Member
v.	Senator Shaheen Khalid Butt	Member
vi.	Senator Syed Muhammad Sabir Shah	Member
vii.	Senator Gurdeep Singh	Member

4. The Chief Engineer, Ghazi Barotha Hydropower Project (GBHP) briefed the Committee on the agenda item. He informed that GBHP consists of three main components namely the Barrage, the Power Channel and the Power Complex. The Committee was briefed that GBHP Power Channel is 52 km long with dozens of villages situated along both sides of the channel. Considering its location, a total of 83 structures including road bridges, railway bridges and crossings are provided for passage of general public.

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5. Despite these structures, general public often resorts to crossing project area which leads to accidents. In order to discourage public from infiltration, the GBHP management affixed warning sign boards. These sign boards displayed that more than 1,000 people have died however upon inquiry, the Committee was informed that for the last 10 years 134 people have died. The Committee took serious offence on incorrect information being shared by a government functionary and directed GBHP to reflect the factual position on its warning signs.

6. During the deliberations, the Committee was informed about the safety measures taken by GBHP including installation of guard rail/crash barrier on 36 km of service road, erection of chain link fence on 54.8 km; affixation of factual warning signs, construction of speed breakers, installation of lighting system for better visibility, imposition of Section 144 and cancellation of entry passes issued for service road.

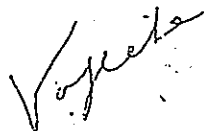
7. The Committee was informed that it has been declared A1 Key Point KPID by the Ministry of Interior which makes restriction of public access to GBHP even more important. Upon inquiry the Committee was briefed that the design of GBHP was such that if any breach happened that it might impact the entire downstream water supply.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

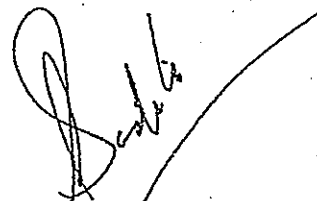
8. After deliberations, the Committee made the following recommendation:

- i. The members of the Committee recommended that the GBHP should devise people centric solutions with a focus on providing recreational facilities and employment opportunities to the local community.
- ii. The Committee directed WAPDA and representatives from Ministry of Water Resources to undertake feasibility studies and share proposals for establishment of recreational facilities for the local community within 3 months.
- iii. The Committee recommended that GBHP management should engage life guards and install iron nets to protect people from drowning.

9. Following the exhaustive deliberations, the agenda item was disposed of.



(WAJEEHA RIAZ)
Secretary Committee



(SENATOR MUSADIK MASOOD MALIK)
Chairman Standing Committee on Water Resources