

# **ADC B'la chairs Disaster preparedness Meet**

*Calls for prompt coordination, effective utilization of men and machinery during exigencies*

Baramulla, September 04: Additional Deputy Commissioner Baramulla Farooq Ahmad Baba today chairs a meeting of heads of various departments to review the disaster preparedness and to take stock for enhancing the capacity of requisite level of advance preparedness of the future floods in respect of District Baramulla.

Meeting was attended by heads of various departments, SEs, CMO, EXNs, EO's and others concerned officers.

On the occasion, the ADC took a thorough review regarding the disaster preparedness wherein he stressed for close coordination between departments and other agencies to safeguard the precious lives and property in case of eventualities. He also directs the concerned to remain prepared and prompt their efforts so that such incidents may be tackled smoothly.

It was informed that more than 80000 sandbags for Tangmarg area, 50000 sandbags for Sopore and a sufficient quantity have been facilitated for Baramulla besides other vital material and has been kept ready whenever required.

The ADC pressed for making a list of vulnerable flood-prone areas, location of related infrastructure viz dozers, sandbags, boats, vehicles, dewatering pumps. He directs to regularly update the relevant statistical data and to keep men and machinery ready besides identifying the vulnerable locations in the district.

Meanwhile, Farooq Baba assessed the overall preparedness of concerned departments thoroughly for the crisis management. He directed the concerned authorities to gear up their men and machinery and utilize the services of volunteers and organizations to take prompt action during occurrence of any kind of disaster.

He also called for close coordination between the departments to ensure timely rescue and rehabilitation. Moreover he urged upon the people living along disaster prone areas and embankments of river Jhelum, Nallahs or in the low lying areas to remain vigilant and to contact the administration in case of any eventuality.

Moreover, the ADC stressed for establishing round the clock control room/helpline at subdivision, tehsil and other levels so that people may contact the administration in times of need without any inconvenience.

Later Vice President Asia Program Development, Research and Academic Affairs International University School of Medicine Prof Dr. Ravi Jyee held an interactive question and answer session for the discussion on the case study of Jhelum River for breaching its banks, causes and the proposed immediate action plans and audit of the existing capacity. He shared his valuable

experience relating disaster preparedness and mitigation during which he sought feedbacks and suggestions from the concerned for better disaster management.