

PAKISTAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



Hon. President
Dr. Salma Aslam Kundi

Hon. President Elect
Dr. Hameedullah Khan

Hon. Immediate Past President
Dr. Ikram Ahmed Tunio

Hon. Secretary General
Dr. S.M.Qaisar Sajjad

Hon. Treasurer
Dr. Qazi Muhammad Wasiq

Hon. Joint Secretaries
Dr. Amir Saleem
Dr. Akbar Ali Soomro

Hon. Chairman E.B. JPMA
Dr. Sarwar Jamil Siddiqui

Hon. Editor The Medical Gazette
Dr. Alia Bano

August 24, 2022

PRESS CONFERENCE

Dear Journalist Friends,
We welcome all of you at PMA House Karachi for covering this important press conference.

Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) expresses grief and sorrow regarding the torrential rains and flooding in the large swathe of Pakistan. Every province is suffering from rain related devastation that has led to extensive human and infrastructure damage across Pakistan.

According to Pakistan's National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), the severe adverse weather has resulted in the **deaths of more than 700 people** till now, while 939 people were injured. **The calamity affected millions of people and Thousands of people have reportedly been displaced from their homes.** Floodwaters and debris flows have also damaged bridges, rail networks and roadways, restricting overland travel in and around affected areas. According to the reports some **60,000 houses have reportedly been damaged**, it has washed away roads and washed away bridges causing problems for the rescuers to reach the flood-affected areas to help the victims.

The KPK government declared a state of emergency in Dera Ismail Khan, Upper and Lower Chitral and Upper Kohistan districts, while glacier melting in Gilgit-Baltistan wreaked havoc on Hoper Valley and Nagar Khas where flooding washed away small villages.

Baluchistan and Sindh provinces are most adversely affected by the rains and floods.

In Balochistan, heavy rains badly affected Quetta, Sohbatpur, Musakhail, Duki, Dera Bugti, Chaman, Loralai, Nasirabad, Jafarabad, Jhal Magsi, Khuzdar and Dera Murad Jamali districts where scores of human settlements were destroyed. **The death toll in Baluchistan has reached 225. A total of 26,567 homes were damaged and 107,377 cattle have also been reported dead in the floods**, PDMA data shows. The floods have disconnected the province with other parts of the country causing difficulties for relief work.

Several northern districts of Sindh, including Hyderabad, Larkana, Khairpur, Shikarpur, MirpurKhas Nawabshah, and Sukkur were badly hit by rains, cloudbursts, and flooding, more than 1.6 million people have been affected. **As many as 0.5 million people in the province are homeless, standing crops over 1.4 million acres have been destroyed, more than 386,039 houses were submerged and 231 people lost their lives due to the recent floods.** Government of Sindh has declared 22 districts of the province as 'Calamity Affected Areas' and has enforced emergency regarding flood.

Page 1 of 2



PAKISTAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



Hon. President

Dr. Salma Aslam Kundi

Hon. President Elect

Dr. Hameedullah Khan

Hon. Immediate Past President

Dr. Ikram Ahmed Tunio

Hon. Secretary General

Dr. S.M.Qaisar Sajjad

Hon. Treasurer

Dr. Qazi Muhammad Wasiq

Hon. Joint Secretaries

Dr. Amir Saleem

Dr. Akbar Ali Soomro

Hon. Chairman E.B. JPMA

Dr. Sarwar Jamil Siddiqui

Hon. Editor The Medical Gazette

Dr. Alia Bano

The Areas suffering from massive floods are also facing outbreak of diseases like Gastroenteritis, Skin diseases, and Eye problem (conjunctivitis).

PMA branches are already working at their flood affected areas but after lengthy discussion at the last central council meeting, PMA Centre wrote letters to all its branches to enhance the flood relief activity and also requested them to organized medical camps. The participants of the Central Council meeting also offered FATEH for the people who lost their lives during rains and floods. PMA is also working in collaboration with some NGOs.

PMA through this press conference requests philanthropists and NGOs to contact us on given numbers to initiate joint relief operations for flood affectees.

We request Pharmaceuticals companies to donate medicines urgently to PMA House Karachi and other branches of PMA in different cities of the country. (Contact No.021-32254632, 0336-2894069, 0303-2339179).

We request the whole nation to come forward and help the people generously to lessen their difficulties. We always see that only our army is working day and night for afflicted people. **The government should play its due role** to support the relief activities in this calamity. Unfortunately in the last 75 years no government has bought any tools, machinery and other equipments to deal with such natural and manmade disaster.

PMA expresses its concern over the utmost political polarization in the country. It is very unfortunate that mainstream parties are badly indulged in political rivalry. They are holding press conferences and talking for their own interests but not for the people facing hardships in this calamity. Nobody is seemed to be worried about flood affectees. PMA requests all the political parties to work for the rehabilitation of these unfortunate people who has lost everything and are helplessly looking at you.

Please note that the raining season has not ended yet and God forbid there are chances of **more river flooding**. We want to inform government that there could be more floods so be vigilant and prepared.

This is the **entire duty of the government** to look after all the issues arise from the floods especially for the rehabilitation.

PMA also requests media to highlight the issues of sufferers of flood disaster instead of covering political clash. Flood calamity should become the headlines so that issues of the destitute people could be brought to light.

Dr. S.M.Qaisar Sajjad

Hon. Secretary General, PMA Centre

Prof. Sonia Naqvi

Hon. President, PMA Karachi

Dr. Qazi M. Wasiq

Hon. Treasurer PMA Centre

Dr. Abdul Ghafoor Shoro

Hon. General Secretary PMA Karachi

Dr. Mirza Ali Azhar

Hon. Immediate Past President
PMA Sindh

Dr. Altaf Hussain Khatri

Hon. Joint Secretary PMA Karachi

