STORY 1

WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, PUNJAB,

Construction of Shahpur Kandi Dam Project in full swing amid COVID-19

-- All precautionary measures followed strictly during construction work

CHANDIGARH: Punjab government has resumed construction work on the Shahpur Kandi Dam Project and all precautionary measures have been strictly followed to prevent the spread of COVID-19 pandemic. Notably, the construction work had been suspended due to the nationwide lockdown.

Giving some relaxations in the Lockdown, Ministry of Home Affairs in its notification dated 15.04.2020 allowed to resume the irrigation projects. Accordingly the Agency with the recommendation of Chief Engineer pursued the case to restart the construction work at site with the District Administration, Pathankot. The District Administration had allowed to resume the construction work at site on 28.04.2020 and accordingly the work was resumed at site from 29.04.2020 and Now, the construction operation in full swings.

All the precautionary measures are being followed at both Shahpurkandi dam and Ranjit Sagar dam to contain the spread of COVID-19.

These precautionary measures included creation of 40-bed isolation facility in the RSD hospital, regular sanitization and disinfection of township, hospital, banks, ATMS security barracks, offices and police station etc. of the Ranjit Sagar Dam (RSD) Project Shahpurkandi township. The Keshav Hall, Shahpurkandi township was created into a quarantine facility, with help of civil society group as per the guidelines supplied by the district administration, to cater 125 migrant labourers.

A special estimate for RANJIT SAGAR DAM hospital containing items like PPE kits, masks, gloves sanitizers, disinfectants, bed sheets etc. was sanctioned for the safety and security of the patients, doctors and paramedical staff.

Kandi Canal Syphon Project resumed

Kandi Area Development Adminstration of Water Resources Department, Punjab has resumed the work on Kandi Canal Syphon in choe bed in Hoshiarpur district. The work, which had been halted due to nationwide lockdown, restarted with the special permission of Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur on 24.4.2020. All the precautionary health measures is being followed to keep check on Covid-19, besides all other COVID-19 care arrangements have been done at site. The project cost is around Rs 2.39 crore. The work was supposed to be completed
before March, 2020 but it was halted due to lockdown. Now, the work is supposed to be completed before start of rainy season.

DRAINAGE ADMINISTRATION ACTIVELY PARTICIPATES IN COVID-19 RELATED ACTIVITIES

• Tender floated to execute cleaning of drains and flood protection works

CHANDIGARH: Drainage Administration of the Water Resources Department, Punjab has actively participated in fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Drainage Administration's Executive Engineers, SDOs and their associated staff have been playing significant role in the COVID-19 related activities in respective Districts. They have been discharging their duties as Section Officers/Duty Magistrates, as assigned to them, with sincerity.

The Drainage Administration has also planned to undertake the cleaning works of dry drains in the state through MGNREGA. In addition, the Drainage Administration has planned to get the works of cleaning of drains and flood protection works in the state approx. amounting to Rs. 50 crore (as per instructions of FD it was reduced from 100 crore due to COVID-19 restrictions) executed during the month of May and June, 2020. These works have been planned to be executed & completed before the onset of monsoon i.e. 30.06.2020. Field staff, as per the instructions of the Government, has completed survey and prepared estimates. The tenders for the works have already been floated. Apart from social distancing, all other guidelines and health protocol will be followed during the execution of these works.

--------