



LASH GALASH

A Newsletter of
DASU HYDROPOWER PROJECT
(Dasu Kohistan Upper, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa)



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General Manager/Project Director Dasu Hydropower Project.

Dasu Hydropower Project stands as a flagship initiative, bringing transformative impacts to Pakistan's energy landscape and local communities. By harnessing the power of renewable energy, this project addresses the country's growing demand for electricity and promotes energy security and environmental sustainability. Moreover, it serves as a catalyst for economic growth in the region, creating employment opportunities, improving infrastructure, and uplifting the



Engr. Amir Shafiq ur Rehman

lives of local communities. As General Manager of the Dasu Hydropower Project, I am deeply committed to ensuring its successful implementation, recognizing its immense significance in driving Pakistan's progress toward a prosperous and self-reliant future.

Director General Social Safeguards Dasu Hydropower Project.

Dasu Hydropower Project is committed to ensuring effective social safeguards, fair resettlement, and sustainable livelihood support for project-affected communities. The social safeguards team is working closely with stakeholders to ensure transparent compensation, relocation assistance, and implementation of social and environmental management plans. Through continuous stakeholder engagement and monitoring, the project aims to address community concerns and contribute positively to regional development while safeguarding the rights and welfare of affected people.



Brig.(Retd) Zahid Hussain

CELEBRATING THE SPIRIT OF FREEDOM 79TH INDEPENDENCE DAY AT DASU HYDROPOWER PROJECT

August 14, 2026 - As Pakistan proudly celebrates its **79th Independence Day on August 14, 2026**, the spirit of freedom, patriotism, and national unity was beautifully reflected at the **Dasu Hydropower Project (DHPP), WAPDA**.

To mark this historic occasion, the DHPP office was beautifully illuminated in the national colors of **green and white**, creating a vibrant and patriotic atmosphere at the project. The illumination symbolized the nation's enduring spirit of independence, unity, hope, and progress.



The celebration at Dasu Hydropower Project reflects the commitment of WAPDA and its dedicated workforce to contribute towards the development and prosperity of Pakistan. As one of the country's major hydropower initiatives, DHPP continues to play an important role in strengthening Pakistan's energy sector and supporting sustainable national development.

The 79th Independence Day provided an opportunity to remember the sacrifices of the nation's founding leaders and countless individuals who struggled for freedom, while reaffirming our collective commitment to building a stronger, prosperous, and peaceful Pakistan .



CHARGE OF DIRECTOR (SOCIAL & RESETTLEMENT) FORMALLY HANDED OVER AT DASU HYDROPOWER PROJECT

August 11, 2026- The charge and responsibilities of Director (Social & Resettlement), Dasu Hydropower Project (DHPP), were formally handed over by **Mr. Shoaib Afridi** to **Mr. Asif Qaisar**, who has recently joined the Project as the new Director (S&R).

The charge-handover ceremony was attended by officers and staff of the Social & Resettlement Section. During the ceremony, Mr. Shoaib Afridi briefed Mr. Asif Qaisar on key ongoing activities, important matters, and the progress of social safeguard and resettlement initiatives being implemented under the Dasu Hydropower Project.

The Social & Resettlement Section plays a critical role in maintaining effective engagement with Project Affected Persons (PAPs), addressing community concerns, facilitating compensation and resettlement matters, and ensuring the implementation of the Project's social safeguard commitments in coordination with relevant stakeholders.

On the occasion, officers and staff appreciated Mr. Shoaib Afridi for his valuable services, leadership, and contributions during his tenure as Director (S&R). They also warmly welcomed Mr. Asif Qaisar and assured him of their full cooperation and support in carrying forward the objectives of the Wing and further strengthening engagement with local communities.

Mr. Asif Qaisar expressed his commitment to working closely with Project management, local administration, communities, and other stakeholders to ensure the timely resolution of outstanding social and resettlement matters. He also emphasized his resolve to further strengthen the implementation of social safeguard commitments and promote constructive engagement with Project Affected Persons and local communities.

The ceremony concluded with appreciation for the contributions and services of Mr. Shoaib Afridi, along with best wishes to him for his future responsibilities and to Mr. Asif Qaisar for a successful tenure as Director (Social & Resettlement), DHPP.



CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF “KAIGAH REST HOUSE AND PEDESTRIAN TRACK 6.15 KM”

August 06, 2026- A contract amounting to PKR 73,649,935/- has been signed between the Dasu Hydropower Project (DHPP), WAPDA and M/s Ghulab Khan & Sons (Pvt.) Ltd. for “Construction of Kaigah Rest House and Pedestrian Track” within the Kaigah Game Reserve/Community Conservation Area. The agreement was signed by Director General (Social Safeguards), DHPP, Brig. (Retd) Zahid Hussain, on behalf of Dasu HPP WAPDA, and the Managing Director of M/s Ghulab Khan & Sons (Pvt.) Ltd.

The project is an important initiative under Wildlife Conservation efforts and is aimed at promoting eco-tourism and sustainable management in the Kaigah Valley. The development of the rest house and 6.15 km pedestrian track will facilitate the access to the conservation area and enhance tourism opportunities and support the successful conservation of Markhor and important biodiversity in the Kaigah Community Conservation Area.

The signing ceremony was attended by Mr. Abdul Sattar, President, Kaigah Valley Conservation Committee (VCC); Dr. Fayaz Ahmad, Director (Environment), DHPP; and Mr. Adnan Naveed, Assistant Director (Ecology), DHPP, along with representatives of Dasu Hydropower Consultant (DHC). The initiative reflects DHPP’s continued commitment to biodiversity conservation, community participation, and sustainable development in the project area.



HEALTH AWARENESS AND SCREENING CAMPAIGN ON “LIFESTYLE MEDICINE AWARENESS AND PROMOTION” UNDER THE “THEME HEALTH FOR ALL” CONDUCTED AT PROJECT OFFICE CHUCHANG, DASU HPP.

August 01, 2026- A Lifestyle Medicine Awareness and Promotion Campaign was successfully conducted at the Project Office Dasu HPP under the theme "Health for All." The activity was organized by the Basic Health Clinic Dasu HPP in collaboration with the OHS Team of DHC, with the approval of the GM/PD, Dasu HPP WAPDA.

The campaign aimed to promote healthy lifestyle practices, raise awareness about disease prevention, and encourage early health screening among employees. Activities included the distribution of health awareness pamphlets, basic health screening, and individual health counseling.

A total of 51 employees participated in the campaign. The screening identified participants with normal health

status as well as cases requiring lifestyle modifications and medical follow-up, including hypertension, diabetes, overweight, obesity, and underweight conditions. Overall, the campaign was successfully conducted and contributed to enhancing employees' awareness of preventive healthcare and the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle .



DHPP ACHIEVES ANOTHER BENCHMARK - FULL-SCALE RCC TRIAL HAS COMMENCED ON THE PROJECT.

July 23, 2026- The full-scale trial, including its testing, is expected to be completed in 4 months. Teams from the Contractor, the Consultants, and WAPDA will review and evaluate all technical aspects of the trial before formal commencement of RCC works at the Main Dam, scheduled later this year, depending upon the availability of pozzolan from Gini area, which despite efforts spread over a decade, WAPDA has not been able to acquire. Besides conducting the full-scale RCC trial, construction activities are also underway on 23 work fronts of Dasu Hydropower Project. Major construction sites include the Main Dam foundation, underground Power House and underground Transformer Cavern. The Crushing and Batching plants, needed for RCC production, are fully operational, ensuring readiness for the next phase of construction. It is important to note that Dasu is the largest hydropower Project of Pakistan in terms of annual energy generation, which is 21 billion units. The 4320 MW-Dasu Hydropower Project is planned to be completed in two Stages. At present, WAPDA is constructing Stage-I of 2160 MW, which will provide 12 billion units clean, green and economically affordable electricity to the National Grid.



EPA PUBLIC HEARING AT CHUCHANG COLONY DASU HYDROPOWER PROJECT.

July 21, 2026 - A Public Hearing on the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) of the WAPDA Project Colony and the Extraction of Construction Materials for the Dasu Hydropower Project was conducted on 21 July 2026 at the DHPP Under-Construction Colony, District Upper Kohistan, under the supervision of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Protection Agency (KP EPA). The hearing provided an opportunity for local communities and stakeholders to express their views, concerns, and suggestions regarding the potential environmental and social impacts of the proposed activities. The key concerns and recommendations raised during the hearing were recorded for consideration in the environmental assessment and project implementation process.



DASU HYDROPOWER PROJECT WAPDA, SIGNS CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF RELOCATED SCHOOL AT SHAHI GYAL.

July 16, 2026 - DASU Hydropower Project (DHPP), WAPDA has successfully signed the Contract Agreement for the construction of the relocated school at Shahi Gyal in a ceremony held at the DHPP office on 16 July 2026.

The school is being relocated from its original location at Seer Gayal as part of the project's resettlement and community development initiatives. For this purpose, DHPP, WAPDA coordinated closely with the Education Department and acquired suitable land at the new site in Shahi Gyal to ensure uninterrupted educational facilities for the local community.

The construction contract has been awarded to M/s Shams-e-Ilahi, and the school is scheduled to be completed within one and a half years.

This initiative reflects DHPP, WAPDA's commitment to providing improved educational infrastructure and facilitating sustainable development for the project-affected communities.



WORLD BANK TECHNICAL TEAM VISITS DASU HYDROPOWER PROJECT FOR A THREE-DAY MISSION.

June 21-23, 2026- A technical team from the World Bank conducted a three-day visit to the Dasu Hydropower Project (DHPP) from 21 to 23 June 2026 to review project progress, assess ongoing construction activities, and engage with project management and implementation teams. During the mission, the delegation visited key project sites, discussed technical, environmental, and social aspects of project implementation, and reviewed milestones achieved under the project. The visit reaffirmed the World Bank's continued support for the successful delivery of the Dasu Hydropower Project, a strategic initiative aimed at enhancing Pakistan's clean energy generation capacity and strengthening the country's energy security.



MEETING ON FLOOD PREPAREDNESS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE FOR UPCOMING FLOOD SEASON.

May 19, 2026- A comprehensive meeting on flood preparedness and emergency response for the upcoming flood season was held in connection with the Dasu Hydropower Project, focusing particularly on potential submergence risks along the Karakoram Highway during high flood conditions. The session brought together key stakeholders from project management, district administration, consultants, and contractors to review preparedness measures, response strategies, and coordination mechanisms for flood-related emergencies.

The meeting was attended by the Deputy Commissioner of Upper Kohistan, Azizullah Jan, along with officers from the local administration. Senior officials from WAPDA, including the Director OHS, DG Social Safeguards, and other officers and officials also participated in the discussion. Representatives from contractors China Gezhouba Group Company (CGGC), China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC), and consultants Dasu Hydropower Consultants (DHC) were present on the occasion.

During the session, the DHC Team Lead OHS delivered a detailed presentation highlighting lessons learned from previous flood and KKH submergence incidents in 2025, critical flood-prone locations, emergency trigger levels, evacuation procedures, and response responsibilities of all concerned stakeholders. The presentation emphasized the importance of proactive planning, inter-agency coordination, early warning systems, emergency medical preparedness, traffic management, and timely evacuation measures to ensure the safety of both project personnel and the public.

Special focus was given to defining the responsibilities of district administration, Rescue 1122, WAPDA, contractors, security forces, and consultants during emergency situations. Discussions also covered alternative route management, deployment of emergency resources, communication mechanisms, and restoration plans in

case of highway submergence or overtopping at critical project locations.

The meeting concluded with open discussions and recommendations aimed at strengthening flood emergency preparedness and ensuring effective coordination among all stakeholders during the forthcoming flood season.



WORLD BANK SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENT TEAM COMPLETES THREE-DAY VISIT TO DASU PROJECT, CONDUCTS DETAILED REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE ACTIVITIES.

May 13, 2026- The Social and Environment Team of the World Bank has completed a three-day review visit to the Dasu Hydropower Project, during which it conducted a detailed assessment of ongoing social and environmental safeguard measures, community welfare activities, and development initiatives under the project. The World Bank delegation was given a comprehensive briefing on various technical, social, and environmental aspects of the project. The delegation reviewed in detail the progress on the Social and Environmental Management Framework, implementation of environmental regulations, occupational health and safety, traffic management, biodiversity conservation, and the In-Migrants Management and Communication Plan. The World Bank team was also briefed on land acquisition, compensation payments to affectees, resettlement activities, livelihood restoration, public consultations, grievance redress mechanisms, the Gender Action Plan, scholarship programs, and welfare initiatives under the Local Area Development Program. The delegation further examined monitoring and evaluation systems, legal and institutional arrangements, and mechanisms for compliance with international social and environmental standards. On the final day of the visit, the World Bank mission conducted a field visit to the main dam site, associated infrastructure, contractor camps, bridges, and various ongoing development schemes under the Local Area Development Program. During the visit, Director General Social Safeguards Brigadier (Retd.) Zahid Hussain, WAPDA officials, consultants, and relevant experts accompanied the delegation. The World Bank team appreciated the effective implementation of ongoing social and environmental measures, community welfare programs, and safety standards under the project, expressing overall satisfaction with the progress.



CERTIFICATE DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY FOR 31 SUCCESSFUL LHVS OF UPPER KOHISTAN UNDER DASU HYDROPOWER PROJECT'S TWO-YEAR TRAINING PROGRAM.

May 7, 2026 — Abbottabad: Thirty-one women from Upper Kohistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, have successfully completed a two-year professional training course for Lady Health Visitors (LHV) under the Local Area Development Program of the Water and Power Development Authority Dasu Hydropower Project. The training program, organized by WAPDA at the Public Health School Abbottabad, was completed at a cost of Rs588 million. The initiative was launched as part of WAPDA's corporate social responsibility efforts aimed at improving primary healthcare services in Upper Kohistan, particularly maternal and child healthcare, while also promoting public awareness regarding disease prevention. A certificate distribution ceremony was held at the Jalal Baba Auditorium to honor the successful trainees. Commissioner Hazara Division Fayyaz Ali Shah attended the event as chief guest, while Member of the National Assembly Malik Idris and General Manager/Project Director of Dasu Hydropower Project Engineer Amir Shafiq ur Rehman were also present.



MID-TERM IMPACT REVIEW OF SOCIAL, RESETTLEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPONENTS

May 02, 2026- A meeting was held today to review the mid-term impacts of the social, resettlement, and environmental components of the Dasu Hydropower Project. The session, organized by the MSC Consultant, was attended by relevant sectional heads and chaired by the Director General (Social Safeguards).

During the meeting, Mr. Anura Widana, Team Lead MSC Consultant, presented a comprehensive overview of project progress, highlighting resettlement status, socio-economic impacts, and environmental management measures.

Participants actively contributed insights, focusing on strengthening coordination, addressing challenges, and enhancing mitigation strategies to improve overall project outcomes.

The session concluded with a commitment to incorporate feedback into ongoing and future planning, ensuring continued focus on social responsibility and environmental sustainability.



A PROUD MILESTONE IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

May 01, 2026- A contract signing ceremony was successfully held between the Management of Dasu Hydropower Project and M/s Umer Hayat Construction Company for the construction of Government Primary and High Schools in Seo Village, District Upper Kohistan. The agreement was signed by Maj (R) Tariq Mehmood, Director General (Social Safeguards), and Mr. Salman Khan, representing M/s Umer Hayat Construction Company, in the presence of Chief Engineer (Contracts), Mr. Salman Akram, along with other DHPP officials. This initiative, under the Local Area Development Program of Dasu Hydropower Project, reflects a strong commitment to strengthening educational infrastructure and empowering local communities, laying the foundation for a brighter, more prosperous future for the coming generations.



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