

Centre asked to share 50pc K-IV water project cost

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that the K-IV water project cost has increased from the estimated cost of Rs25 billion to Rs75bn and the federal government must share 50 per cent expenditures as committed at the initial stage.

“Karachi is a mini-Pakistan and people from all the provinces live here, therefore the other provinces must give some water for the city to meet its requirement,” he added.

The chief minister stated this while discussing overall water issues with Federal Minister for Water Resources Faisal Vawda who met him at CM House on Friday.

During the meeting they discussed outstanding issues between the provincial and federal governments.

Referring to the K-IV water project, Mr Shah said its cost had increased manifold from the estimated cost of Rs25bn, which was now hovering around Rs75bn.

“Our teams are working to determine accurate estimates and as soon as it would be worked out it would be passed to the federal government through relevant forums,” he said and recalled that the federal government was committed to bear 50pc cost of the project when its cost was estimated at Rs25bn.

“Now it has increased, therefore the federal government must share 50pc expenditures,” he added.

The chief minister also drew attention of Mr Vawda to additional water requirement for K-IV project and asked him that being the federal water minister he must support the provincial government.

Latter, Sindh Local Government Minister Saeed Ghani and Federal Minister Vawda briefed the media about their understanding reached in the meeting with the chief minister.

Meeting with lawyers

The chief minister also had a separate meeting with office bearers of High Court Bar Association, Karachi and Malir Bar Association and assured them of his resolve to address their issues.

“We cannot forget your sacrifices for restoration of democracy,” he said.

The High Court Bar and the Malir Bar Associations invited the chief minister to visit them, which he accepted.

The meeting was also attended by CM’s Adviser barrister Murtaza Wahab and Special Assistant to CM Rashid Rabbani.

The Newspaper's Staff Reporter