INTRODUCTION

As we know the devastation is of an order which requires innovative approaches to ensure delivery to those who need it urgently.

I have devised Adopt-a-Village Program in order that those wishing to provide sponsorship for humanitarian assistance are able to direct their resources to one village rather than dispersing it in different places. At this time a holistic approach will be extremely useful as it will ensure that unmet needs of each village are met before moving forward.

I would like to focus on providing needs incrementally to correspond to resources as and when they become available. The essentials must be met now while the remaining can be added on a later stage.

I have developed two kinds for adoption with varying provisions:

a. Markaz Centre Village, acting as a training and hospitality village.

b. Satellite Karigar (Artisans) Villages.

This way it will be possible to develop an eco-system that would be mutually supportive and strengthen each other’s capabilities and skills along with opening up livelihood avenues. A prototype village cluster has been created in Mirpur Khas with Pono Village as the Markaz Centre village along with 9 karigar villages. Among important steps is to form committees of women nominated by villagers at 3 per fifty households. Banks should be approached to open joint bank accounts of 3 members from each group/village.

What is envisaged in establishing the Markaz Centre Village?

The Markaz Centre is positioned to fabricate emergency shelters, provide training in making lime mud bricks and will be utilized for general guidance for cluster of karigar villages. Because of its importance in being hub of various activities, it has to be chosen carefully so that the residents are willing to be trained to provide necessary guidance to others. Since it has the responsibility to provide training to other villages, which is an income generating activity, it will require certain accommodation; thus also becoming one of our hospitality villages to house students as well as other volunteers that I am encouraging to visit. Later these villages could become part of a network for developing Rural Eco-Tourism, forming another way to support our rural communities.

The village will consist of average 60 households. Of course, the size may vary according to location.

Accommodation and Infrastructure for Markaz Centre Village?

A village of 60 households will build the following items with provision of materials and approximate cost as shown. They will provide their own labour and will be incrementally to correspond to resources.

What are the needs of the village?

PLAISE 1

1.1 Basic requirements: sanitation, Pakistan Chulah, Potable water

a. 60 Emergency LOG dwellers

b. 30 Emergency Eco-Toilet (sharing basis)

c. Earthen Pakistan Chulah (stove)

d. Water handpumps (sharing basis 1/5 households)

1.2 Disaster Preparedness

a. Earthen stands 1 per household

- For storing solar water
- For storing food
- For kitchen garden

b. Protective Elements – 3' high Earth bund walls

- Periphery wall to prevent water penetration

c. Protective Elements – Water Retention

- Aquifer trenches along boundary
- Aquifer wells along boundary and in village

d. Periphery Elements – Community Forests

- Periphery native tree forests: 100 per 40' length

1.3 Environmental Improvement

a. Household trees

- Saplings for planting 2 trees/household neem tree and lemon

b. Pathways

- 3 pathways for village household access
Neem Tree  |  Lemon Tree  |  Pathways
| 30 Nos.  | 50 Nos.  | 3000 ft
| Rs. 100  | Rs. 100  | Rs. 100 /ft

1.4 Training Accommodation
a. Emergency LOG fabrication
   - Workplace structures and equipment
   - Solar panels
b. Women’s Centre
   - Structure
   - Computer

Women Centre  |  Solar Panels  |  Monitor/Computer
| Rs. 100,000  | Rs. 8,000  | Rs. 50,000

c. Training provided by Pono Markaz (by artisans)
   - Emergency LOG fabrication
   - Mud/lime brick making
   - Compost making for solid waste from eco toilets

Emergency LOG  |  Mud/lime brick  |  Composting bins
| Rs. 25,000  | Rs. 3 per brick  | Rs. 5,000

1.5 Children's accommodation
a. 6 nos. half-scale LOG reading/play rooms for children

1.6 Infrastructure
a. Solar Panels for village
b. 5 Cellphones: 1 for women’s committee, 4 for trainers, coordinators

Half LOG  |  Solar Panels  |  Cellphones
| 6 Nos.  | Rs. 10,000 each  | 5 Nos.
| Rs. 8,000  |  | Rs. 15,000

PHASE II

2.1 Hospitality accommodation
a. Permanent LOG shelters
b. Permanent eco toilets
c. Tea room / Recreation room
d. Linen storage
e. Crockery storage
f. General Storage

Permanent LOG Shelter  |  Permanent Eco Toilet
| 10 Nos.  | 10 Nos.
| Rs. 50,000  | Rs. 25,000