



# INDIA AND AFGHANISTAN A Development Partnership





Model of Parliament Building in Kabul under construction



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The Presidents of India and Afghanistan - New Delhi, August, 2008

India and Afghanistan are building a partnership between the world's largest and most recent democracies. Our countries are composed of myriad traditions and are joined together by history and civilisational contacts. Our close relations are based on cultural affinities, the shared values of multi-ethnicity and pluralism and the common quest of our peoples for peace and development. India has been one of Afghanistan's foremost development partners since end-2001.

India shares the collective commitment of the international community to the unity, integrity and prosperity of Afghanistan. A peaceful and stable Afghanistan is in India's interest, as also the interests of the region and the World. The trauma and the destruction Afghanistan faced in the 1990s requires a comprehensive effort to rebuild and reconstruct a war torn society and economy. India as a close neighbour and friend has sought to play its role in this effort.

India's expanding partnership with Afghanistan has grown into multi-sectoral activities in all parts of Afghanistan. India's reconstruction and developmental programmes in Afghanistan follow priorities of the Afghan Government and people. These encompass education, medical services, transport, telecommunications, civil aviation, agriculture, irrigation, power generation, industry, and rural development. India is building in Afghanistan structures from public toilets to transmission lines. A strong political relationship underwrites this partnership.

One of India's important infrastructure projects in South-Western Afghanistan, the highway from Zaranj to Delaram, was inaugurated by President Hamid Karzai and India's External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee on 22nd January, 2009. Built at the cost of precious Afghan and Indian lives lost in the course of its construction, the highway is a symbol of India's commitment to Afghanistan.



Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and President of Afghanistan Hamid Karzai

## INDIA AND AFGHANISTAN - MARCHING AHEAD

In keeping with Afghanistan's priorities, in the latest phase of its development activities, India has focussed on capacity building and human resource development. Given the decades of destruction and dismantlement of state structures, India's latest efforts are helping accelerate the massive institution-building currently underway in Afghanistan.

There has been an enthusiastic response to the 500 short and medium-term training slots provided annually to Afghan public servants, as also to the 500 scholarships to Afghan students to study in India at the under-graduate and post-graduate levels. Both these activities are being substantially augmented. Education has been the greatest single factor catalysing India's transformation, and so it shall be for Afghanistan. From mid-2009, the first of the Afghan graduates will begin returning to Afghanistan and commence their contribution to the reconstruction of their country.

Afghanistan became the latest member of the South Asia Association of Regional Cooperation at the 14th SAARC Summit in New Delhi in 2007, making SAARC's western boundaries contiguous to Iran and Central Asia. With this, Afghanistan could once again become the cross-roads between Central and South Asia, linking the regional countries together in a trade, transportation and energy hub. The region has the world's largest and most rapidly expanding markets. Kandahari *anars* are a treasured delicacy, of which India consumes almost half of the Afghan exports. Together, India and Afghanistan intend to work with our neighbours to dismantle trade and transit barriers for free movement of goods, investments, and peoples and unfettered and constructive regional relationships.

Since 2006 the rising spectre of terrorism and violence has targeted Indian developmental projects in Afghanistan. The effectiveness and popularity of these programmes has led to attacks on them by the enemies of Afghanistan's progress and stability. A number of Indian technicians along with an even larger number of their Afghan colleagues have been killed in such terrorist attacks. The Indian Embassy in Kabul was itself directly attacked on 7th July, 2008 leading to the death of a number of Embassy personnel and scores of Afghan nationals waiting to



receive visas to travel to India. India is determined to continue the work of these martyrs to India-Afghanistan friendship. India's commitment to the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan remains unwavering.



Inauguration of Zaranj-Delaram Road, January 2009

## From India – Afghanistan Joint Statement during visit of President Hamid Karzai to New Delhi on 4th August, 2008.

President Karzai's visit comes at a time when there has been a resurgence of terrorism whose specter profoundly threatens our societies. The attack on the Indian Embassy in Kabul on the 7th of July was an attack on the friendship between India and Afghanistan. President Hamid Karzai's presence today conveys a befitting response to that attack. The leaders expressed their determination to fight terrorism unitedly and with all the forces at their command.

Prime Minister Dr. Singh conveyed to President Karzai that all of India's commitment to Afghanistan would be fully met. To this end, the Government of India pledged an additional 450 million US dollars over the 750 million US dollars announced so far to effectively meet the requirement of our ongoing and forthcoming projects.

# INDIA'S PARTNERSHIP WITH AFGHANISTAN— AT A GLANCE

India has played an active role in the reconstruction of Afghanistan, based on the understanding that social and economic development is key to ensuring that Afghanistan becomes a source of regional stability. India's pledged assistance to Afghanistan stands at 1.2 billion US dollars.

Indian projects cover all parts of Afghanistan, in a wide range of sectors, identified by the Afghanistan as priority areas for reconstruction and development. All the projects are undertaken in partnership with the Afghan government, in total alignment with the Afghanistan National Development Strategy, and with focus on local ownership of assets.

An innovative element has been the focus on small and community-based development projects, with a short gestation period and having a direct impact on community life, unveiled during Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh's



Nimroz and Farah province elders at the inaugural function of the Zaranj-Delaram Road - January 2009



Ongoing works at the Salma Dam site, Herat Province

visit to Afghanistan in August 2005. The latest phase of the bilateral development partnership focuses on capacity development and building Afghan institutions.

India's assistance activities and development partnership with Afghanistan covers four broad areas:

### Humanitarian Assistance

- ❖ Daily supply of 100 grams of fortified, high-protein biscuits to nearly 2 million children under a School Feeding Programme administered through the World Food Programme.
- ❖ Gift of 250,000 metric tonnes of wheat, announced in January 2009 to help Afghanistan tide over its current food crisis, to be shipped immediately, subject to transit and transportation arrangements being finalised.
- ❖ Free medical consultation and medicines through 5 Indian Medical Missions to over 30,000 Afghans monthly.
- ❖ Reconstruction of Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health in Kabul.
- ❖ Gifting of vehicles (400 buses and 200 mini-buses for mass urban transportation, 105 utility vehicles for municipalities, 285 military vehicles for the Afghan National Army, and 10 ambulances for public hospitals in five cities).
- ❖ Five toilet-cum-public sanitation complexes in Kabul.

## Major Infrastructure Projects

- ❖ Construction of 218 km road from Zaranj to Delaram to facilitate movement of goods and services from Afghanistan to the Iranian border and, onward, to the Chahbahar Port (completed).
- ❖ Construction of 220kV DC transmission line from Pul-e-Khumri to Kabul and a 220/110/20 kV sub-station at Chimtala to bring additional power from the northern grid to Kabul (completion by April 2009).
- ❖ Construction and commissioning of Salma Dam power project (42 MW) in Herat province (completion by 2011).
- ❖ Construction of the Afghan Parliament (completion by 2011).
- ❖ Restoration of telecommunication infrastructure in 11 provinces (completed).
- ❖ Expansion of national TV network by providing an uplink from Kabul and downlinks in all 34 provincial capitals for promoting greater integration of the country (completed).



Construction of the Zaranj-Delaram Highway

## Small and Community-based Development Projects

These are in vulnerable border areas, with focus on local ownership and management and extend to agriculture, rural development, education, health, vocational training, and solar energy. These have a direct, immediate and visible impact on community life.

- ❖ 84 small projects are under different stages of implementation in 19 provinces of Afghanistan.

## Education and capacity development

- ❖ Reconstruction of Habibia School, Kabul.
- ❖ 500 annual long-term university scholarships sponsored by the Indian Council for Cultural

- Relations for under-graduate and post-graduate studies for Afghan students in India.
- ❖ 500 annual short-term ITEC training programmes for Afghan public servants in Indian technical and professional institutions of their choice.
  - ❖ Deputation of 20 Indian civil servants as coaches and mentors under Capacity for Afghan Public Administration (CAP) programme supported by UNDP and the Governments of Afghanistan and India.
  - ❖ India–Afghanistan Vocational Training Centre for training Afghan youth in carpentry, plumbing, welding, masonry and tailoring executed by the Confederation of Indian Industries.
  - ❖ Women's Vocational Training Centre in *Bagh-e-Zanana* for training of Afghan women (war-widows and orphans) in garment making, nursery plantation, food processing and marketing, executed by the well-known Indian NGO SEWA (Self-Employed Women's Association).
  - ❖ Capacity building programmes are also underway in the fields of diplomacy, media and information, civil aviation, agricultural research and education, health care and medicinal science, tourism, education, standardisation, rural development, public administration, electoral management and administration, and local governance.



Scene at SEWA Project, *Bagh-e-Zanana*

# HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE



Biscuits distribution under school feeding programme

## Contribution to the School Feeding Programme

A major initiative of the Government of Afghanistan in 2002 was the "Back to School" campaign. This has been a success, with 6.4 million children now in schools, a third of them girls. A critical component of this programme was the School Feeding Programme, to encourage attendance and enhance school performance, especially for girl students.

In June 2002, when World Food Programme (WFP) was facing a serious resource shortfall and was looking for donors to fund the new school feeding operation, India proposed conversion of the one million tonnes of wheat donated by India (that could not be transported to Afghanistan due to transit difficulties) into high protein biscuits to be distributed in schools, in partnership with WFP.

- ❖ The distribution started in 2003 and is still continuing. For the school year 2008–09, 32,000 tonnes of biscuits are being supplied to Afghanistan.
- ❖ Everyday, nearly two million Afghan school children in 33 out of 34 provinces (excluding Kabul) receive a packet each of 100 gms of biscuits.
- ❖ This provides children necessary nutrients to prevent short-term hunger and encourages school attendance. It has, thus, been a big factor in increasing school enrolment in Afghanistan.

## New Food Aid

During President Hamid Karzai's working visit to India on 12th January, 2009, the Indian Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh announced that

in order to help the fraternal people of Afghanistan in tiding over their current food crisis, India would gift Afghanistan a quarter of a million metric tonnes of wheat. The shipment is to be effected immediately, as soon as transit and transportation arrangements are finalised. Of this, 100–150,000 metric tonnes is expected to go towards creation of Afghanistan's strategic food reserves.

The supply of the wheat will be a considerable logistical exercise, involving transportation by sea to Iran and thereafter overland to Afghanistan by road. A faster and cheaper route across Pakistan by road and trains would depend on facilitation by Pakistan.



Class room scene in Khas Kunar, Kunar Province

# PUBLIC HEALTH

Medical services in Afghanistan were badly affected due to decades of fighting. To attend to the massive and urgent medical needs, India rushed a team of 13 doctors and paramedics to Kabul in end-2001. Camps for fitting artificial limbs were held in different parts of Afghanistan throughout 2002.

Since then, five Indian Medical Missions (IMMs) have been working in Kabul, Herat, Jalalabad, Kandahar and Mazar-e-Sharif, attending and disbursing medicines to 30,000 patients per month. The five IMMs cater to the poorest of the poor patients, many of whom come for consultation and free medicines from the contiguous provinces. Nearly 360,000 patients are availing of these services annually.

India undertook the rehabilitation of the Indira Gandhi Institute for Child Health (IGICH) in Kabul, the largest paediatric hospital in Afghanistan, and completed its new three-storied Surgical Block in 2005. The Polyclinic Block was completed in 2007. Now, the newly constructed Diagnostic Block is being equipped with diagnostic equipment, including CT scan and MRI facilities. Capacity building of Afghan doctors is a vital component of assistance and batches of IGICH specialists train at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.





Waiting room, Indian Medical Mission, Herat

## India and IGICH

- ❖ The only hospital for children in Afghanistan.
- ❖ Foundation stone laid by King Zahir Shah and Vice President of India Dr. Zakir Hussain in 1966.
- ❖ Inaugurated in 1972 by King Zahir Shah.
- ❖ Renamed as Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health in 1985.
- ❖ Construction of Surgical Block and Polyclinic began in 1989 but stopped in 1992 due to war.
- ❖ India resumed renovation work in November 2003. New Surgical blocks and polyclinic functional.
- ❖ India's assistance includes new lifts, HT stabiliser, EPBX system, incinerator for solid medical waste disposal, etc.
- ❖ The supply of equipment for the Diagnostic Centre in the Polyclinic Block is under process and a new Neo-Natal and Maternity Care Unit is in the planning stages.
- ❖ As part of capacity building the training of doctors and paramedics of the hospital at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in New Delhi continues.

Under the Small Development Project Scheme, India has built basic health clinics in the border provinces of Badakshan, Balkh, Kandahar, Khost, Kunar, Nangarhar, Nimroz, Nooristan, Paktia and Paktika.

In 2008, India provided the Afghan Ministry of Public Health ten ambulances, two each for use in Kabul and the regional hospitals in Jalalabad, Kandahar, Herat and Mazar-e-Sharif.

IGICH and the Malalai Hospital in Kabul are being linked with reputed Indian hospitals through a SAARC Telemedicine Project (this will become operational by August 2009).



Patient at IGICH, Kabul

# ROAD CONSTRUCTION

## Zaranj–Delaram Highway: A New Gateway

This 218 kms long highway provides connectivity to the very end of South–western Afghanistan and Iran by linking Zaranj to the Kandahar–Herat highway. It will also further regional cooperation by encouraging new trade and transit through the Iranian port of Chahbahar and provides a supplementary and shorter access of Afghanistan to the sea. The highway was inaugurated by President Hamid Karzai and External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee on 22nd January 2009.

In addition to the highway, the Indian construction team also built 58 kilometres of inner-city roads, 40 kms in Zaranj, 10 kms in Gurguri and 8 kms connecting Gurguri to Razai.

Since the main road was built on a new alignment, the logistics involved, both in terms of men and materials, was mammoth: 339 engineers and workers from India and many more from Afghanistan were engaged in the project. Yet, compared to the cost of other roads constructed in Afghanistan, the total cost was modest: 150 million US dollars, a tribute to the project management team.

Eleven Indians and 129 Afghans lost their lives during the construction period. Of the 11 Indians, six were killed in terrorist attacks and 5 died in accidents. The completion of the road reflects the determination of both India and Afghanistan that nothing can prevent or hinder collaboration between our two countries.



Construction work at the Zaranj–Delaram Road



Construction at the Zaranj-Delaram Road

## Zaranj – Delaram: Positive results

- ❖ The population of Zaranj town increased from 55,000 when the road construction began in 2004 to over 100,000 today.
- ❖ Land values along the road have gone up.
- ❖ Passenger traffic has picked up; now regular buses have begun to supplement taxis.
- ❖ The journey from end-to-end, between Delaram and Zaranj, that used to take 12 to 14 hours, is completed in just over two hours now.
- ❖ Compared to an average of five truck or container load of goods coming through Zaranj, the average number today is over 50.
- ❖ With trade volumes steadily going up, the customs revenue collection at Milak Bridge, Zaranj, is increasing every month.

# POWER AND TRANSMISSION

Power generation and transmission is a significant part of India's assistance package to Afghanistan.

## Pul-e-Khumri to Kabul Transmission Line and Chimtala Sub-station

- ❖ Construction of 220 KV Double Circuit Transmission Line (202 Km) from Pul-e-Khumri to Kabul and 220/110/20 KV Sub-station at Chimtala near Kabul (two 160 MVA transformers and three 40 MVA transformers) began in 2005.
- ❖ The transmission line is already in use, since 21st January 2009, and the sub-station will be fully commissioned by April 2009, before Afghanistan gets additional 220 KV electricity supply from Uzbekistan. The transmission line passes over the Salang Range at a height of 4000 mts.
- ❖ In January 2009, India committed to construct an additional sub-station for local electricity distribution at Charikar, for which the design and tendering work has been completed.

## Salma Dam Power Project

- ❖ India has begun construction of the Salma Dam Power Project on river Hari Rud (162 Km east of Herat town) in Herat Province in 2004. This will be commissioned by 2011.



Construction work at the Salma Dam



Section of transmission line over Salang Pass

- ❖ The project envisages generation of 42 MW electricity, besides adding an irrigation potential of 40,000 hectares and stabilising supply to the existing 35,000 hectares irrigated by the Hari Rud.

## Other Projects

- ❖ In 2007, India supplied equipment for a 125 Km transmission line from Andkhoy to Maimana, three 110/20 KV sub-stations at Maimana, Faizabad and Juma Bazar, and four 20/0.4 KV pole-mounted sub-stations in Faryab province.
- ❖ Between 2003 and 2007, 50 deep tube wells were dug in Badgis, Baghlan, Balkh, Faryab, Herat and Jawzjan provinces.
- ❖ India completed the rehabilitation of Amir Ghazi and Quargha reservoirs in 2007.
- ❖ In addition, India carried out surveys and feasibility studies for rehabilitation of micro-hydro power projects and supplied solar power panels in several provinces, including for the Teacher's Training Centre, Shignan, Badakhshan.

## The Salma Dam

- ❖ Is a 550 metres long, 107 metres high-earth and rock-filled dam.
- ❖ Has 514 million cubic metres live storage and 663 million cubic metres gross water storage capacities.
- ❖ Involves a surface powerhouse, with three units of 14 MW each.
- ❖ Includes 110 KV transmission line from Chisht-e-Sharif to Herat, with 532 towers over a distance of 143 kms.

# SUPPORT TO DEMOCRACY

The emergency *Loya Jirgah* followed by the Constitutional Loya Jirgah restored Afghanistan to its traditional democratic traditions. Thereafter, presidential and parliamentary elections were held in 2004 and 2005, respectively, when democratic processes under the new Afghan Constitution attained a firmer footing.

## Parliament Building

As its contribution to the establishment of democratic institutions in Afghanistan, India committed to construct the new Parliament building in Kabul. Its foundation stone was laid by Baba-e-Millat, Zahir Shah, in the presence of the President of Afghanistan and the Prime Minister of India in 2005. After finalisation of design work and architectural plans, construction commenced in January 2009 and is expected to be finished in 36 months time.

## Parliamentary Exchanges and Training of Parliament Staffers

The Indian Parliament maintains an exchange of visits with the *Wolesi* and *Meshrano Jirgas*. Officials of the National Assembly secretariat are trained in India's Bureau of Parliamentary Study & Training.

## Independent Election Commission

Afghanistan's Independent Election Commission and India's Election Commission members and officials have regular exchanges, mutual visits for study and observation, and training activities, based on a Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions.



Schematic representation of Afghanistan's new Parliament Building

## The New Parliament complex would feature:

- ❖ A Wolesi Jirga Chamber with galleries and lobbies
- ❖ A Meshrano Jirga Chamber with galleries and lobbies
- ❖ Separate rooms for the Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Chairman of the Meshrano Jirga and Leader of Wolesi Jirga and Leader of Opposition
- ❖ Committee Rooms
- ❖ Chamber for the President
- ❖ Dining hall and Canteen
- ❖ Mediapersons Room
- ❖ Viewers Gallery
- ❖ Prayer Hall
- ❖ Library and Auditorium
- ❖ Car parking facility

# INDIA'S ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN

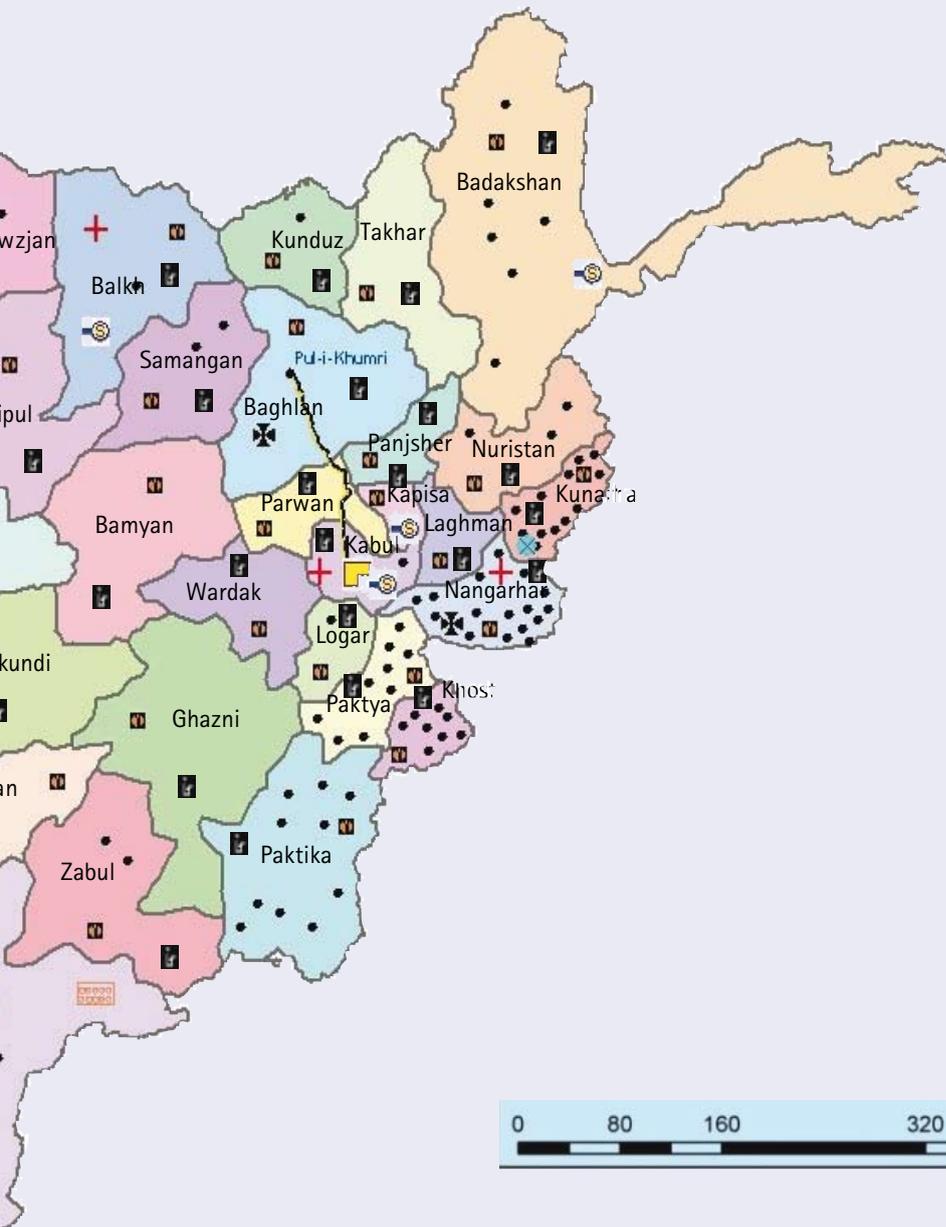
## Assistance extended all over Afghanistan

- ◆ 100 gms of high protein biscuits supplied to 2 million school children daily.
- ◆ 500 Annual Scholarships for higher education in Indian Universities.
- ◆ 500 Scholarships and training slots for Afghan Public servants in Indian professional Institution of their choice.
- ◆ 250,000 metric tonnes of wheat.
- ◆ Indian Medical Mission (IMM)/Polyclinics in Herat, Mazar-e-Sharif, Jalalabad, Kandahar and Kabul.
- ◆ Small Development Projects (SDPs).

## Other Indian Assistance

- ◆ Airbus Aircraft - Three along with spare parts to Ariana Afghan Airlines.
- ◆ Renovation of Indira Gandhi Institute of Child health- Kabul.
- ◆ Ambulances supplied to Hospitals in Kabul, Herat, Kandahar, Jalalabad, Mazar-e- Sharif.
- ◆ TV Satellite downlink/Transmitter.
- ◆ School Material (desk-cum-benches).
- ◆ Buses.
- ◆ Tubewells.
- ◆ Solar Panels.
- ◆ Computer Training Centres.
- ◆ Sulabh Toilet Complexes.





## Legend

-  Road Project
-  Transmission Line
-  Solar Panels
-  Cold Storage
-  Computer Training Centre
-  Education and Scholarships
-  High Protein Biscuits
-  Indian Medical Mission
-  Parliament Building
-  Salma Dam Power Project
-  Small Development Projects



# TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

In late 2001, after a decade of devastation and faced with the pressure of returning refugees, Kabul and the provinces found themselves bereft of public transport facilities. Responding to the need, India gifted 400 buses to Afghanistan, of which 205 were deployed in Kabul and the balance in 25 provinces of Afghanistan. This was supplemented by 200 mini-buses, particularly for use in hilly regions and to connect outlying villages to urban centres. Municipalities were gifted 105 utility vehicles, including water and cesspit tankers and garbage dumpers.



Indian-made Buses prior to departure to Afghanistan

## Civil Aviation

In order to get the national carrier, the Ariana Afghan Airlines, quickly operational, India gifted three airbus aircrafts, along with essential spares, and retrained airline officials to develop capacity in the civilian aviation sector of Afghanistan. India is currently in the process of extending further training opportunities in air traffic control, airport management and pilot and navigational training.

## Telecommunication

India undertook the emergency restoration of telecommunication infrastructure in 11 provinces in 2005 with installation of equipment including digital telephone exchanges, with infrastructure facilities including towers and power supply systems. In collaboration with UPU, IPU and the Government of Afghanistan, India established Multipurpose Community Tele-centres (MCTs) to provide ICT services through post offices in 12 provincial capitals in Afghanistan. The Indian component of the project was completed in September 2007.

## TV Uplink and Downlink Facility

For Afghanistan's national integration and for access to public radio and television all over Afghanistan, India executed a project to uplink Radio and Television Afghanistan (RTA) and provide down link facilities in all provinces. RTA signals are now being transmitted to the provinces via the Indian satellite INSAT 3A.



Scene at Kabul International Airport



Micro Wave Station at Kabul



Construction of protection wall at Chaknavor village, Nangarhar Province

## SMALL AND COMMUNITY- BASED DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Prime Minister of India announced an innovative new scheme for Small and Community-based Development Projects during his visit to Kabul in August 2005.

The scheme relates to quick-impact, small-scale projects in sectors such as agriculture, rural development, education, health, vocational training, etc., with a budget, typically, of less than 1 million US dollars. These can be implemented very quickly (in six

to twelve months) and are conceived at the grass-root levels. The projects are implemented by local contractors.

The objective is to create a sense of partnership and ownership in the local communities, particularly in the vulnerable border districts in the southern and eastern provinces of Afghanistan, to help develop them and bring visible benefits to the local community.

Eighty-four small projects are under different stages of implementation in 19 provinces of Afghanistan.

### NGOs in SDPs

While 95% of the SDPs are in response to requests from provincial or local authorities, India has extended support also to two interesting NGO-supported projects:

**Murad Khane, Kabul:** India is contributing, in cooperation with the Turquoise Mountain Foundation, to the regeneration of Murad Khane, the oldest surviving part of the historic city on the north bank of Kabul river. A traditional commercial area, it contains some of the finest surviving 18th and 19th century houses in Kabul, including the Ziarat of Abu Fazl. India is contributing to this restoration scheme that supports Afghan culture, serves the interests of the local community and creates fresh opportunities for business, craftsmanship and tourism.

**Hand-in-Hand Project, Balkh:** India is currently contributing to a year-long pilot project, mostly in Balkh and partly in Badakhshan, to mobilise the rural poor into common interest groups for promoting savings, entrepreneurship and job creation. This is modelled on self-help groups in Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh, India. Seventy-five thousand persons will be mobilised, creating about 15,000 new jobs by the end of the project period.



Construction of Comprehensive Health Centre in Khost Province

## Small Development Projects (SDPs) being implemented in Afghanistan

Sl. No.	Project	Location
<b>Agriculture &amp; Veterinary</b>		
1.	Setting up of a demonstrative nursery	Khas Kunar district in East Kunar province
2.	Setting up of a demonstrative nursery	Dih Bala district in Nangarhar province
3.	Setting up of a demonstrative nursery	Tani district in Khost province
4.	Setting up of a demonstrative nursery	Dur Baba district in Nangarhar province
5.	Establishment of a veterinary clinic	Dur Baba District of Nangarhar province
6.	Establishment of a veterinary clinic	Khas Kunar district of Kunar province
7.	Setting up of a Basic Health Clinic	Kamdesh district in Nooristan province
8.	Establishment of Veterinary clinic and providing equipments	Gurbuz district of Khost province
9.	Establishment of Veterinary clinic and providing equipments	Spin Boldak district of Kandahar province
10.	Establishment of Veterinary clinic and providing equipments	Sayed Karam district of Paktia province
11.	Construction of canal for Mohamad Umar village and Anjiraan Karez village	Arghandab district of Kandahar province
<b>Health</b>		
1.	Setting up of a Basic Health Clinic	Khas Kunar district in Kunar province
2.	Setting up of a Basic Health Clinic	Asmar district in Kunar province
3.	Setting up of a Basic Health Clinic	Jani Khel district in Paktia province
4.	Setting up of a Basic Health Clinic	Wakhan district in Badakhshan province
5.	Setting up of a Basic Health Clinic	Zaranj district in Nimroz province
6.	Setting up of a Basic Health Clinic	Chakhansur district in Nimroz province
7.	Setting up of a Basic Health Clinic	Musa Khel district of Khost province
8.	Setting up of a Basic Health Clinic	Arghistan district of Kandahar province
9.	Setting up of a Basic Health Clinic	Laja Mangal district of Paktia province
10.	Setting up of a Comprehensive Health Centre	Warmamai district of Paktika province

11.	Setting up of a Basic Health Clinic	Wama district of Nooristan province
12.	Setting up of Comprehensive Health	Khogiani district of Nangarhar province
13.	Setting up of Comprehensive Health Centre	Maruf district of Kandahar province
14.	Setting up of Comprehensive Health Centre	Gayan district of Paktika province
15.	Construction of Child Hospital	Child hospital in Aybak City, Samangan province
16.	Setting up of 2 Basic Health Clinic and 1 Comprehensive Health Clinic	Balkh Province
17.	Construction of a Gynecology Clinic	Rodat district of Nangarhar province
18.	Construction of Comprehensive Health Centre	Ali Sher district of Khost province
19.	Construction of Comprehensive Health Centre	Ziruk district of Paktika province
20.	Construction of Basic Health Clinic in context of Health Development Programme	Kuran Wa Munjan district of Badakhshan province
21.	Construction of Basic Health Clinic in context of Health Development Programme	Wakhan district of Badakhshan province
22.	Construction of Basic Health Clinic in context of Health Development Programme	Shamal district of Khost province
23.	Construction of Basic Health Clinic in context of Health Development Programme	Jaji Maidan district of Paktia province

### Water and Sanitation

1.	Setting up of 40 Water Points (Bore Wells)	Sherzad district in Nangarhar province
2.	Setting up of 50 Water Points (Bore Wells)	Different villages of Gomal district of Paktika province
3.	Setting up of 40 Water Points (Bore Wells)	Different villages of Khogiani district of Nangarhar province
4.	Setting up of 35 Water Points (Bore Wells)	Different villages of Shinkai district of Zabul province
5.	Setting up of 54 Water Points (Bore Wells)	Sarobi district of Paktika province
6.	Construction of Protection wall	Chaknahr village of Lalpur district of Nangarhar province
7.	Construction of Girder Bridge	Sherzad district of Nangarhar province
8.	Setting up of 71 Water Points (Bore Wells)	Marawarah district of Kunar province

9.	Construction of 8 public toilets	Shibirghan city in Jawzhan province
10.	Construction of Basic Health Clinic in context of Health Development Programme	Jaji Maidan district of Paktia province
11.	Construction of Water Supply Pipe Scheme Project	Surkot village of Tani district in Khost province
12.	Construction of Water Supply Pipe Scheme Project	Tani district in Khost province
13.	Construction of Water Supply Pipe Scheme Project	Nari district of Kunar province
14.	Construction of Water Supply Pipe Scheme	Aurgon district of Paktika province
15.	Construction of Water Supply Pipe Scheme	Matti village of Wuza Zardan district of Paktia province
16.	Construction of 67 Water Points (Bore Wells)	Kama district of Nangarhar province
17.	Construction of 25 Water Points (Bore Wells)	Noorgal district of Kunar province
18.	Construction of 41 Water Points (Bore Wells)	Shamulzai district of Zabul province
19.	Construction of 46 Water Points (Bore Wells)	Ziruk district of Paktika province
20.	Construction of 60 m Suspension Bridge	Ghaziabad district of Kunar province
21.	Construction of 40 m Girder Bridge.	Wakhan district of Badakhshan province
22.	Construction of 2,807 m long pipe scheme with 10 public taps	Dangam district of Kunar province

## Education

1.	Construction of 8 schools	Paktia and Paktika province
2.	Construction of 8 schools	Khost province
3.	Construction of 4 schools	Border districts (Asmar, Marawar, Noorgul and Dangum) of Kunar province
4.	Construction of 4 schools	Shinwar, Nazyan, Achin and De Bala districts of Nangarhar
5.	Construction of 5 schools	Pachir Wa Agham, Ghushta, Sherzad, Kama and Khogiani districts of Nangarhar province
6.	Construction of 4 schools	Border districts (Wama, Noorgram, Noorgram and Wegal) of Nooristan province
7.	Construction of 3 schools	Nimroz province

8.	Construction of 3 schools	Mazar-e-Sharif
9.	School construction	Aryob Jaji district in Paktia province
10.	School construction	Laja Mangal district in Paktia province
11.	School construction	Barmal district in Paktika province
12.	School construction	Ziruk district in Paktika province
13.	School construction	Khas Kunar district in Kunar province
14.	School construction	Sarkani district in Kunar province
15.	School construction	Dangam district in Kunar province
16.	School construction	Goshta district in Nangarhar province
17.	School construction	Pachir Wa Agam district in Nangarhar province
18.	School construction	Lalpura district in Nangarhar province
19.	School construction	Azra district in Logar province
20.	School construction	Chakhansur district in Nimroz province
21.	School construction	Khwhan district in Badakhshan province
22.	School construction	Kuran Wa Munjan in Badakhshan province
<b>Women &amp; Family Welfare</b>		
1.	Construction of orphanage	Aybak city, Samangan province
2.	Establishment of Vocational Training Institute (Carpet Weaving)	Zawol and Pusht-e-Koh regions of Shindand district of Herat province
3.	Setting up of 2 culverts	Panjwai district of Kandahar province
4.	Construction of RTA building	Jalalabad, Nangarhar province
<b>SDPs with NGOs</b>		
1.	Hand in Hand (Afghanistan) project for deputation of field training personnel, specialists and experts for mobilising training and coaching local entrepreneurs and for job creation, on the Self Help Group model being implemented	Balkh province
2.	Turquoise Mountain Foundation proposal for restoration of the House of Screens	Murad Khane in old Kabul city

# CAPACITY BUILDING

Afghan nationals receive scholarships and training in diverse fields in India under several specialised schemes. Given their success, and increasing demand for them, the coverage of the schemes is being substantially augmented.

## Special University Scholarship Scheme

From 2006 onwards, annually 500 Afghan students are selected and sent to Indian universities for undergraduate and post-graduate courses under the Special Scholarship Scheme of the Indian Council of Cultural Relations. Selections are made on the basis of a country-wide competition. Six seats are reserved for each of the 34 provinces in order to ensure country-wide coverage, especially for representation from remote areas. During the current academic year (2008-09), four Afghan girls secured admission and scholarships for MBBS at the prestigious Lady Hardinge Medical College for Women in New Delhi.

## Indian Technical and Cooperation Programme

Five hundred placements are also offered annually to Afghan public officials under the Indian Technical and Cooperation Programme, typically from anywhere between three to six months in any professional institution of their choice in India. The most popular subjects are urban development, audit and legislative drafting,



poverty reduction, sustainable development, educational planning, public administration, human resource development, agriculture development, English language and IT.

## Vocational Skills Development Programme

In cooperation with the Afghan Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Confederation of India Industries is instituting a pilot project for training to one thousand Afghan youths in the traits of carpentry, masonry welding, plumbing, and cutting and tailoring. The project will identify trainers and assessors from the trained personnel to continue the training modules on a self-sustainable basis upon completion of the project. This is expected to contribute to development of skilled Afghan work force through out the country.



Scene at SEWA Project, Bagh-e-Zanana



Scene at SEWA Project, Bagh-e-Zanana

## Community Learning & Business Resource Centre for Women

The Self Employed Women Association (SEWA), reputed women NGO, is providing vocational training to one thousand women under India's assistance programme for Afghanistan. The Community Learning and Business Resource Centre has been set up by SEWA at *Bagh-e-Zanana* in Kabul.

SEWA is the single largest union of self-employed women in India. It works for social empowerment through economic self-reliance by providing work, income and social security to women.

The trainees for the project have been selected from amongst the most needy and destitute women. 56% of the trainees are war widows and over half are illiterate. The three main areas of skills training are garment making and embroidery, nursery plantation and greenhouse plants, and food and fruit processing. Trainees are also provided training in management, accounts and marketing techniques.

Thirty two Afghan women master trainers in the three identified vocations have been trained in India with SEWA. It is they who impart training to Afghan women at *Bagh-e-Zanana*.

## Capacity for Afghan Public Administration

Since 2007, Indian civil servants have been deputed to government departments in Afghanistan under a tripartite



Scene at SEWA Project, Bagh-e-Zanana

Afghanistan-India-UNDP programme for Capacity for Afghan Public Administration (CAP) for nurturing professional skills in Afghanistan public administration. There are currently twenty Indian CAP officers in key Afghan ministries. They are strictly there as mentors and guides and for developing training modules for Afghan public servants. They are neither advisors, nor do they perform line functions. They have been positioned expressly to develop Afghan capacities. This unique programme has had great success, with a demand for more such mentors and guides to be brought in.

# INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE



District officer, Shegnan, Badakhshan, with Indian solar panels

In order to kick start industrial activity in Afghanistan and promote mutual trade, India has helped restore the Industrial Park in Pul-e-Charkhi, provided preferential access in India for items of export interest to Afghanistan, and given an EXIM Bank credit facility for small and medium Afghan enterprises.

## Common Facility and Tool Room Centre, Pul-e-Charkhi

When the Afghan Government decided to restore the Industrial Park at Pul-e-Charkhi, India set up the Common Facility and Tool Room there in 2005. This is currently providing facilities and tools required in industrial productions processes, particularly for automotives, textiles, general engineering, and consumer products.

## Preferential Trade Agreement

Through this Agreement, India provides Afghanistan duty-free access to the import of dried figs, mulberries, pistachio, roasted pine nuts, fresh melons, asafoetida, lapis lazuli, ruby and emeralds. A 50 percent duty concession has been extended on green, red, golden and black raisins; walnuts; almonds; fresh grapes; apples; apricots; pomegranates; anise, caraway, linseed, alpha and sesame seeds; and dried apricots, plums and sour cherries. The full duty exemption and 50 percent duty exemption applies to all items of high export interest to Afghanistan.

India also assists Afghan exporters to participate in important Indian trade fairs to exhibit and promote their products.

## Credit Facility to Promote Trade and Investment

In order to expand entrepreneurship and business-to-business cooperation, especially between small and medium enterprises of India and Afghanistan, India has offered to Afghanistan a 50 million US dollars line of credit facility. This EXIM Bank of India facility, likely to be operationalised by mid-2009 will catalyse trade and investment between the two countries.





Cultural performance by Afghan students in New Delhi

## CULTURAL EXCHANGES

India and Afghanistan have common cultural roots and share their classical musical traditions. Afghan musicians have participated in various Indian music festivals. The most recent performances include the band *Talaash* (the 'quest') at the SAARC Band Festival on 20th February in New Delhi and the *qawali* group led by Mir Ahmed Sham, which performed together with Indian *qawali* groups in New Delhi on 21st February 2009. In November 2008, an Indian *qawali* group led by Hyder Baksh Warsi performed in Kabul, Herat and Mazar-e-Sharif. Indian musical groups also participate annually at the Nawroz festival at Mazar-e-Sharif.

### Indian Cultural Centre, Kabul

An Indian Cultural Centre was set up in the Indian Embassy in Kabul, with the support of Indian Council for Cultural Relations in 2007. It now has an Indian vocal music teacher and a yoga instructor, both of



Kabul War, Oil painting by Mr. Abdul Shokoor Khasrawe

whom take classes for Afghan students. The Centre also screens films and arranges concerts of Afghan and Indian musicians. These shows and performances are open to the public.

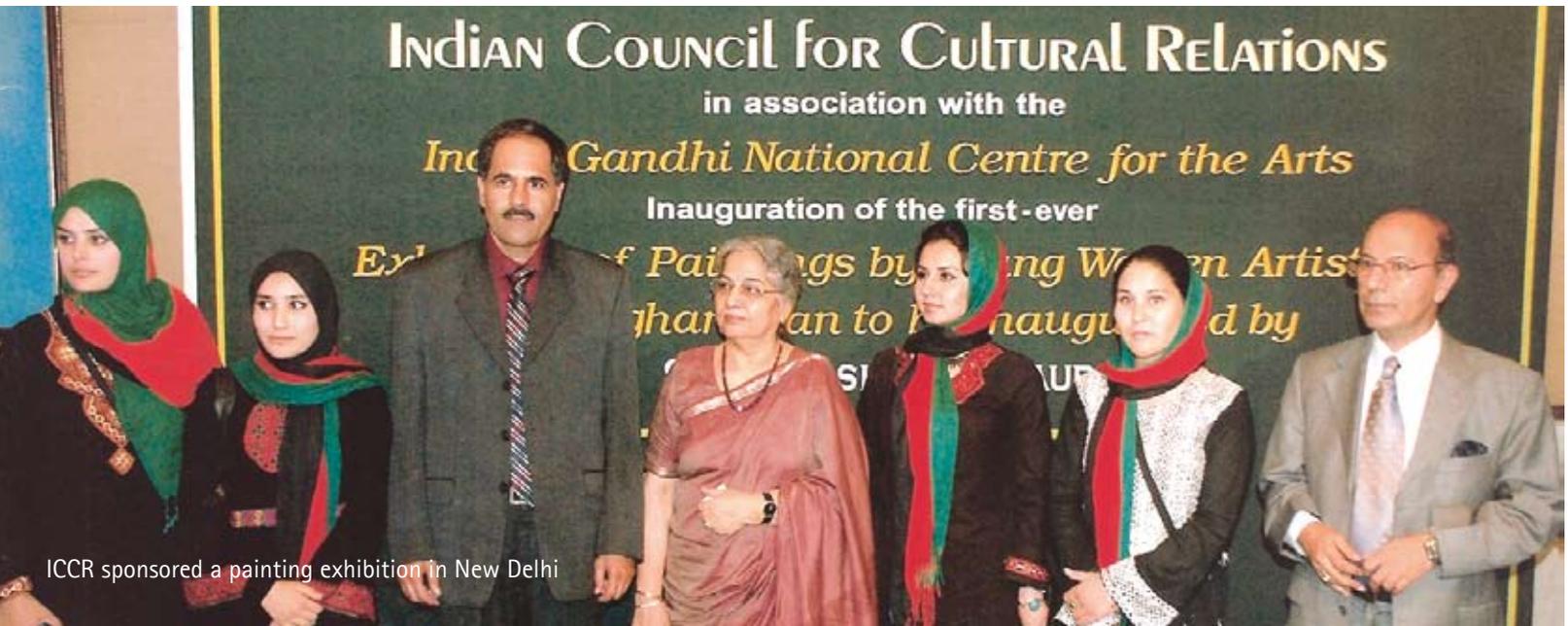
ICCR sponsored a painting exhibition in New Delhi in September 2008 by 18 contemporary women artists from Afghanistan (in the age group 16-25) at the Indira Gandhi National Council of Art, in collaboration with the Centre for Contemporary Arts of Afghanistan. An exhibition by 40 Indian women artists, 'Celebrating Women' is due in Afghanistan in mid-2009.

## India–Afghanistan Foundation

An India–Afghanistan Foundation for fostering educational, cultural, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries was set up in 2008. A seminar on 'Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti and the Chistia Tradition' was held under its auspices at the Jamia Milia University, New Delhi, in February 2009. Another seminar, on 'Women between Tradition and Modernity in Afghanistan and India' is being planned in Kabul at end-June 2009 in cooperation with the Afghan Ministry for Women's Affairs. The Foundation has plans to help in translations and publication of several volumes in Dari and Pashto, encourage exchange of scholars and historians, and revival of the quarterly literary magazine, 'Hind.'

## Media, Information and Culture

India and Afghanistan have commenced exchanges of media persons. Exchanges of radio and television programmes are on the anvil. RTA is planning extensive coverage of Afghan monuments in India. India has supplied musical instruments to Afghan universities, music academies, the Afghan National Army band, and Afghan Radio & Television. India helped restore the television hardware in Jalalabad and set up a TV studio, TV transmitter, a mobile TV satellite uplink and 5 TV relay centres. In 2009, India is planning to augment its radio broadcasts in Dari, Pashto and Baloch languages.



ICCR sponsored a painting exhibition in New Delhi



Children at the Chisht-e-Sharif seminary near the Salma Dam site, Hevat Province



Section of transmission line built between Pul-e-Khumri to Kabul



Children in a school



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