



Tlx. : 52448 IRC PE PK
Tel. : 43350 - 43360 - 41350

International Rescue Committee

G.P.O. 504, PESHAWAR - PAKISTAN

Recommendation

February 1, 1993
Peshawar

To whom it may concern,

As RPA's agricultural advisor, I worked closely with Engineer Nazir for the past year. I have watched Engineer Nazir work with his staff at Darsamand Training Center and was most impressed by the way he had motivated his staff to work on their own. He has a natural ability to lead people, to win their respect, friendship and trust and to treat others as equals. Engineer Nazir is a tireless worker both in the office and in the field. His efforts to rehabilitate Afghanistan's irrigation systems is all consuming because he knows that without irrigation his country would be uninhabitable.

During the time that Engineer Nazir has been director of RPA's irrigation program, 150 kilometers of underground karezes and 80 kilometers of irrigation canals have been made functional returning 24,679 hectares into production for 49,066 families. Since he became director of the Engineering department, the staff has changed from a department of 2 surveyors and four technicians into a department divided into three sections: 1) Detail Technical Survey section which employs six people, 2) Design and Cost Estimate Section which employs four senior engineers and 3) a Project Implementation Section employing nine site engineers and foreman.

Engineer Nazir keeps meticulous and orderly files of all the drawings and other data involved with each project. If a government were ever to form in Afghanistan, his files would be very helpful to the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation. If it were not for the steady deterioration of the ruling powers in Afghanistan and the chaos in Kabul, his home, he would continue to work for the rehabilitation of his country. I remember Eng. Nazir talking fondly and with pride about the change that his department's work on the irrigation canals in Urgoon had made. Before his staff repaired the irrigation canals there, it had been a wasteland. The following year the valley was green with wheat.

I was particularly impressed by his willingness to assist our forestry supervisor to plant trees along the canals that he was cleaning. He agreed to ask Shura leaders to plant trees as part of their contract with engineering section to clean their canals. Eng. Nazir has helped RPA's program change from a charitable agency to one that works as a partner with the Afghan people. He helped institute the program whereby his engineers asked shura leaders to cover 40% of the costs of the reconstruction of a canal or kareze by providing local labor and materials. This was