

August 27, 1988

NOTE FOR THE RECORD

Subject: Meeting with Provincial Government officials of NWFP and Punjab.

SSK met the following officials on August 27 and September 3, 1988 at Lahore and Peshawar respectively:

- Mr. Anwar Zahid, Chief Secretary, Government of the Punjab, Lahore.
- Dr. Zafar Altaf, Secretary, Agriculture Department, Government of the Punjab, Lahore.
- Mr. Umar Khan Afridi, Chief Secretary, Government of NWFP, Peshawar.
- Mr. Mohammad Azam Khan, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of NWFP, Peshawar.
- Mr. Suleman Ghani, Secretary Planning and Development Department, Government of NWFP Peshawar.
- Mr. Inayatullah Khan, Secretary, Local Government and Rural Development Department, Government of NWFP, Peshawar.
- Mr. Saeedullah Jan, Secretary, Finance Department, Government of NWFP, Peshawar.
- Mr. Ejaz Rahim, Commissioner Peshawar Division, Peshawar.

The Punjab Government has expressed an interest in fostering Village Development Councils (VDCs) as enunciated by the Federal Government and expressed a desire for AKRSP help in the matter. Dr. Zafar Altaf was keen on the setting up of the institutional framework for purpose of creating an effective channel for agricultural inputs delivery. The Chief Minister has agreed in principle to the setting up of the VDCs and further instructions are being awaited from the Federal Government.

Dr. Zafar Altaf also promised to help in getting Dr. Zahur Alam's break in service condoned for purpose of pension.

The setting up of Sarhad Rural Support Corporation (SRSC) has been approved in principle by the Caretaker Chief Minister and a summary is now being submitted for approval of the names of subscribers. Dr. Tariq Husain has been contacted by the NWFP Government/USAID to help in writing project proposal for circulation to donors. Mr. Ejaz Rahim continues to be interested in becoming the Chief Executive of SRSC.

Mr. Inayatullah Khan informed SSK of the NWFP Government agreement in principle to setting up of the VDCs and of the Rural Development Fund, to finance the projects, identified by VDCS. He expressed keen desire to visit Gilgit to learn about VOs, which SSK encouraged and a group of officers from NWFP are likely to visit Gilgit in either first or third week of October.

The Chief Secretary informed SSK of his decision to re-utilise the markaz buildings constructed in mid-70s under IRDP Daudzai approach, as service centres. He expressed dismay at previous government's decision whereby these buildings were handed over to the police department for use as police stations. He expressed the view that these buildings are excellent physical facilities for bringing of government agencies under one roof. SSK enlightened CS that it was precisely for these objectives that the markaz buildings were constructed. Commissioner Kohat Mr. Khalid Hayat, who came in during the discussion, asked the Chief Secretary's permission to use the Billitang markaz for this purpose immediately.