



**Islamic Republic of Afghanistan  
Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development**

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**Press Release**

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**Completion of 271 Development Projects in Province of Paktia**

Kabul (Thursday, April 24, 2008): With the completion of 271 projects of the National Solidarity Programme (NSP) of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) in Paktia Province, 201,382 individuals are provided with wide range of facilities in different areas.

The projects include construction of roads, culverts, irrigation canals, construction and cleaning of Kariz, water intake, irrigation infrastructure, drinking water wells, construction of water reservoir, solar, and hydro power plants, hydro and diesel mills, Construction of Mosques and other social centers, retaining walls, literacy courses worth Afs130,700,000 (USD 2.6million) funded from MRRD development budget and implemented through National Solidarity Programme (NSP).

Mr. Abdul Latif, one of the local leaders of Piyauddin village of Haji Aryub district who attended the inauguration ceremony of his villages projects said: "Construction of road and hydro power plant are among the high quality cost effective projects that are being implemented through NSP with cooperation of Community Development councils. These projects not only solve most of our problems but also show the commitment of government of Afghanistan toward reconstruction and development".

Mr. Ajmal Paiman, the spokesperson of MRRD said, "The completion of these projects responded to the problems of as many as 271 different villages in districts of Patan, Chamkani, Lajamangal, Ahmadkhil and Haji Aryub in terms of access to roads, bridges and culverts, energy and power, drinking water points, irrigation canals and literacy courses. The community contributed its share of 10% of the total cost while some of the projects enjoy as much as 30% contribution of community which shows a significant mass participation in ongoing reconstruction process.

The construction of roads in rural areas enable villagers to access cities, social centers and markets, the farmers can easily transport their produce to markets to reap their rewards. Construction of check dams are prerequisites to yield a fruitful harvest for farmers and gardeners. This fact is influential in development of individual economy and thus the rural economy as whole to enhance gaining villagers trust in genuine rural development progress in Afghanistan.

It is worth mentioning that since the start of its development efforts in this province, the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development through its National Programmes, such as National Solidarity Programmes NSP, National Rural Access Programme NRAP, National Area Based Development Programme NABDP and Microfinance Investment Support Facility for Afghanistan MISFA, has implemented over 1129 development projects.