

CAMBRIDGE, 21st October

I am getting regular reports from the villages and it is heartening to note how busy all villagers are in trying to improve their environment. While reports are being prepared on each village's performance and production capabilities, it is important to discuss the results achieved in relation to the provision of shelter.

Instant Shelter Production

As we know shelter is the most critical needs. Although my emergency LOG shelters are doing well and are well liked by communities; their cost being (Rs. 25,000) and the speed in fabrication (@ 6 artisans making 6 per day), it would seem that it is a good solution because the same structure can later be dismantled and built on foundations into permanent house so that it will withstand flood disasters.

And although we have been providing the emergency LOGs to a large number of deserving families, however, the issue of a protective room is critical at this time because of impending winter. I feel it is critical to get protection for as many women and children as possible. For the purpose I wanted to design a cubicle which would provide adequate shelter for mothers and children. The 8'x8' size shelter seems to be liked by families and housewives have excelled in finishing them to make them comfortable.

The village Taj Mohammad 1 has become proficient in making them quite fast. 200 have already been fabricated and installed while the production today is now at the rate of 40 per day. This means that all the 1000 families will have protection of roof and walls within the next 15 days.

Because of this security, we find that many families have become engaged in village environmental improvement program along with preliminary disaster preparation.

The Following is a report prepared by Ar. Ashfaq Ahmed for the work being accomplished on instant shelters that cost very little but are very useful in income generation for the village and, supported by housewives, these are well finished.

