



## TRINET NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2007

### *The Resilience of Children*

#### **The most vulnerable**

The recognition that children are very vulnerable during and after a disaster helped a great deal in the reasonably immediate action to protect them soon after the tsunami disaster. UNICEF estimated that a third of the tsunami victims were children and some believed this to be an estimate on the lower side. In Tamil Nadu, India, alone, over 1750 children are reported to have died and 197 were reported orphaned, losing one or both parents. Perhaps the most important decision taken with respect to these children was that they would be adopted by the Government and given adequate protection. This is believed to have helped in preventing trafficking of children, commonly reported during disasters.

#### **Physical survival**



There are many aspects regarding children soon after a disaster. Foremost is the issue of care, when the parents are either not there, or are unable to provide for the children in the best manner. In most of our societies, kinship care prevails to some extent at least. This means that the extended families of the parents' siblings as well as grandparents do take over the care of orphaned children. In cases where such care is not available, institutional care is the chosen option. In a situation like the tsunami which caused such widespread destruction and trauma, the Tamil Nadu government opened Child Care Centres in the districts at Cuddalore, Nagapattinam and Nagercoil (Kanyakumari) with facilities to maintain a hundred children at each centre housing the children for varying lengths of time till they were claimed by their parents or family members. This was going by Article 20 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) which says that "1. A child temporarily or

permanently deprived of his or her family environment, or in whose own best interests cannot be allowed to remain in that environment, shall be entitled to special protection and assistance provided by the State. 2. States Parties shall in accordance with their national laws ensure alternative care for such a child. 3. Such care could include, *inter alia*, foster placement, kafalah of Islamic law, adoption or if necessary placement in suitable institutions for the care of children. When considering solutions, due regard shall be paid to the desirability of continuity in a child's upbringing and to the child's ethnic, religious, cultural and linguistic background."

#### **Mental, emotional recovery**

The second issue in the case of children and disasters is overcoming trauma. The first year after the disaster, agencies working with children focused on reducing the trauma caused by losing one or both parents as well as having to face the spectre of damages caused by the tsunami. Psychosomatic counseling and activities galore were planned and organized by the various agencies that have specialized in working with children. Regular visits by dignitaries as well as the cultural programmes organized for children did help in reducing trauma. Often, initially at least, the children who would participate were the little ones. Older girls especially were left out, not necessarily deliberately. Social and personal constraints often played a role in their participation. This was recognized by some agencies which organized special programmes accordingly, apart from special training programmes to impart 'useful' skills that would help them to find jobs quickly. These initiatives were quite successful going by the reports from



various agencies as well as anecdotal information from care givers at institutions.

### The situation today

What is the situation on the ground more than two and a half years after the disaster? A recent consultation provided some very interesting insights. The general belief is that kinship care is very strong and children of brothers are considered part of the same family. However, studies showed that there were more children with maternal relatives especially when the mother was dead. It was more often a sister of the mother or the maternal grandparents who took to looking after the children. While about a quarter of the tsunami-widowers remarried, the number of tsunami-widows remarrying was insignificant. Financial assistance in the form of sponsorships to the care givers did help and was often used for education and food for the orphaned child in their care.



General findings were that children have recovered from the trauma reasonably well. Post-disaster, there was an influx of people of all kinds, from NGOs to administrative officials to volunteers, coming into the disaster-afflicted area as well as the frequent organization of cultural programmes such as puppet shows which were characterized by their novelty. These provided sufficient **distraction** from the traumatic event and hastened recovery. The institutions set up to care for the orphaned children received high levels of **public exposure** and interventions and this resulted in children sufficiently comfortable with institutional care that there was little difference between them and those in the care of the community.

However, there are some emerging issues that need to be probed into and lessons learnt and applied. Comparing some aspects of the 'tsunami' orphans with those orphaned prior to the tsunami, and placed in institutional care, it has emerged that drop-outs were higher among children who lost both parents and more in the children who were affected pre- tsunami. Institutional care facilities for tsunami affected were also better – this appeared to be also because such institutions were in the limelight and had to necessarily have a good image.

However, softer needs remained unmet while other facilities definitely need an upgradation. This also means that steps have to be taken to integrate the 'tsunami orphans' with others in the long term and that the quality of facilities for children not orphaned by the disaster have to be drastically improved.

### What makes children resilient?

"Children Survivors of the 2004 Tsunami in Aceh, Indonesia" by Yohana Ratrin Hestyanti reported in the December 2006 'Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences' found that internal protective factors of these children included "strong internal motivation to recover, good heart, open to other people, high motivation to bond to religiosity, self-responsible, sense of humour, and easygoing". Contributing external factors included "support from significant others, able to do religious practice routinely, able to learn traditional dance in groups, have opportunities to be involved in structured play/psychosocial activities, and have access to natural resources for recreation, such as a river". The factors would probably be quite similar in all countries and can only emphasize that internal factors such as self confidence need to be nurtured from an early age apart from a harmonious external environment.

### Teaching them to 'Be Prepared'

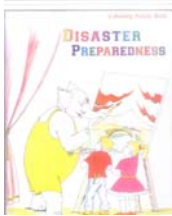
To be forewarned is to be forearmed is an old adage. To be forearmed with knowledge is vital. There is a lot of talk about the rights of a child. Children's parliaments have been set up on the one hand, while childline – a help point - has been established for children to contact in need. All these are absolutely necessary in day to day existence but it seems clear that children need to be made aware of disasters and also clearly understand what their role can be and how they can protect themselves, their family and the community. It is not enough to talk about disaster preparedness in a text book fashion but pare information down to bare facts that are presented clearly and unambiguously. For example, children know that a fire is dangerous. But do they know what to do when faced with reality? Something as simple as the knowledge that crawling on the ground away from smoke – smoke rises and can suffocate if you are in the direct path – can save lives.

*(photos courtesy NCRC)*

At least 100,000 children lost their lives in the tsunami. Surviving children believe many more children would have survived if they had had more information and skills related to disaster reduction and response.

Angela Penrose

## Disaster Preparedness Activities for Children



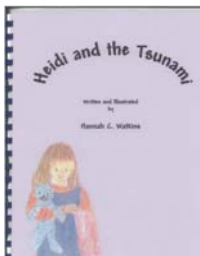
**Children's Colour Activity Book for Disaster Preparedness:**  
[http://www.ndmindia.nic.in/full\\_Color\\_Activity\\_Book.zip](http://www.ndmindia.nic.in/full_Color_Activity_Book.zip)

This colouring book uses simple language and shows children what should be done in case of an earthquake, a fire or a flood. Though the greater portion of the book is on what to do if the earth quakes, the lessons of disaster preparedness in general are clearly brought out.



**The Giving Sea:** <http://www.akanksha.org/givingseaproject.html>

Based on site reports made by their team, Akanksha designed a program, "The Giving Sea" to address the grief and trauma that the children were experiencing. The "Giving Sea" activity book was designed for children affected by the impact of the Tsunami. It is a resource book for teachers, educationists and volunteers to use over one year with affected children. The book's objectives were: 1. To give accurate information about Tsunamis. 2. To help children cope with feelings of fear and grief. 3. To help children rebuild their lives and their connection to the sea. "The Giving Sea" project was implemented by training class teachers of schools in Nagapattinam district in partnership with the local NGO, the Suyam Charitable Trust.

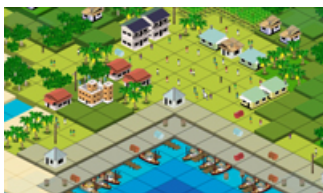


**Hannah Watkins and her books for children**

<http://www.borough.kenai.ak.us/emergency/books/watkins.htm>

A seventeen year old from Alaska has created books on disasters for children: Heidi and the tsunami, James and the volcano, Molly and the earthquake and Spenser and the wildfire. The books have some facts about the natural disaster couched in simple terms as well as a page that gives tips to parents including, "Young, pre-school aged children often feel guilt, thinking that they caused the natural disaster. Reassure them that it is not their fault" and "Encourage children to share their feelings, including their fears and anxieties". Although the books are ideal for a tsunami-, earthquake- and volcano-prone area like the Kenai Peninsula of Alaska,

Hannah's books are not region specific and can be used to teach children living anywhere vulnerable to the disasters says the write up on website.



**An on-line game to teach children how to save lives and livelihoods:** The secretariat of the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction has an on-line game aimed at teaching children how to build safer villages and cities against disasters. This initiative comes within the 2006-2007 World Disaster Reduction Campaign "Disaster Risk Reduction Begins at School".

To access the game please visit: [www.stopdisastersgame.org](http://www.stopdisastersgame.org)

**FEMA for kids:** <http://www.fema.gov/kids/>

Herman is the spokescrab for the site who tells a story about his search for a disaster proof shell. The site also teaches how to be prepared for disasters and prevent disaster damage. One can also learn what causes disasters, play games, read stories and become a Disaster Action Kid. There are electronic colouring books for children as well as facts on what one might feel during a disaster and advice on what to do in the face of a disaster including simple things like babysitting younger kids and helping adults.

**The UN Environment Programme** has a section devoted to children and the environment where different resources are available for children and youth (<http://www.unep.org/Tunza/>). The section for children has some delightful story books at <http://www.unep.org/tunza/children/Story-Time/index.asp> that can be downloaded or read online or purchased.

## *Meetings, Consultations...*

**Coastal Issues:** A Consultation on understanding the CMZ Notification was organized by TRINet at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2007 on behalf of the KSMTF. About 50 participants, from the fishing communities participated. Mr T. Peter, President of the Kerala Swathantra Matsya Thozhilali Federation (KSMTF) welcomed the participants and explained the importance of the meeting. Mr V.Vivekanandan, Chief Executive of SIFFS explained in detail the salient points of the draft CZM notification and also its implications especially on the fishing community. Dr Ahana Lakshmi and Mr Satish Babu briefed the gathering on the salient points of the statement released at the 11<sup>th</sup> June consultation at Chennai. Mr V. Harilal of the Kerala Sastra Sahitya Parishad (KSSP) and Mr K. Vijayakumar, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, presented some important implications if the notification were to be implemented. They pointed out that the local governing bodies are to be in charge of granting permission under the CZM notification. With inadequate resources and know how of the local self governing institutions, this will only help the powerful industrialists and tourism lobbies to get ahead. Mr Saroop Roy of Equations said that the notification in the present form would only help the tourism lobbies which are already innovative enough that in order to bypass the hurdle of 'no permanent structure in the CRZ' (restricted area) they are going for floating restaurants and house boats. There are more than 1000 violations of the CRZ rules in Trivandrum District, which shows the magnitude of the violations that have occurred since the 1991. It is not clear what will happen to these violations once the CMZ notification comes into effect. Mr S. Ravindran Nair, former joint director of the Fisheries, observed that the clause of permitting constructions on the landward side of the accepted protective structures would lead to the construction of sea wall throughout the entire 590 km of Kerala coast. This would lead towards centralization of fishery activities, since traditional fishing units can't operate from beaches where sea wall is constructed. The local fishery economies in the marine villages may suffer a lot due to this centralization process.

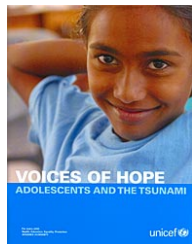
**Children without parental care:** A State Level consultative workshop on Status of Children without Parental Care and Lessons learned in the context of tsunami was organized by TNTRC and NCRC at Chennai on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2007. The highlights of the meeting were presentations of case studies on the status of recovery of children who were orphaned by the tsunami in 2004. A set of recommendations were presented to the Minister at the end of the consultation.

**Community Based CZM: Towards Proactive Risk Communication.** A strategy for effective tsunami mitigation in the coastal areas of India is to be implemented jointly by Kyoto University and University of Madras. An informal discussion on the objectives, mode of implementation and area of focus of this project was held on 26<sup>th</sup> July at the Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Madras, Chennai.

**Sharing of Findings- Research Study: 'Understanding the Vulnerability of Coastal Communities to HIV& AIDS in the Tsunami hit Areas of India'.** Jointly organized by Oxfam and Swasti on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2007 at Chennai. According to the study, the vulnerability to HIV and AIDS was found to be heightened after the tsunami disaster in two-third of research locations (20 out of 30). A number of factors that existed pre-Tsunami, in combination with emergent factors post-Tsunami, increased vulnerability in these locations. Of the factors that emerged post-Tsunami, the physical proximity (created through intermediate shelters and proximity between habitations and intermediate shelters) of displaced populations (social groups, localities, gender, marital status) was found to be the primary factor that contributed to a chain of events that led to increased vulnerability to HIV and AIDS. Other factors included breakdown of social institutions and controls and access to abandoned, empty spaces and structures; behavioural factors such as alcohol consumption leading to family disruptions and affecting condom use; poor health seeking behaviour for STI treatment and; lack of knowledge and misconceptions related to STI and HIV.

## Useful Reads

### **Voices of Hope: Adolescents and the Tsunami:** [http://www.unicef.org/publications/files/Tsunami\\_newbackcover.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/publications/files/Tsunami_newbackcover.pdf)



Adolescents and young people have repeatedly proven that they can provide innovative solutions in the midst of complex humanitarian crises. Soon after the December 2004 tsunami they mobilized, helping to distribute aid, assisting with clean-up and rebuilding, and caring for those younger than themselves. Yet their enthusiasm, creativity and energy was not being fully utilized in rehabilitation and development efforts. This publication highlights the helpful, analytical and compassionate comments they made on [UNICEF's Voices of Youth website](http://www.unicef.org/voicesofyouth/), and firmly states that "it is time to listen" to these young people and to engage them as key partners.

### **Much done, More to do:** [http://www.unicef.org/emerg/disasterinasia/files/tsunami\\_2-year\\_2006.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/emerg/disasterinasia/files/tsunami_2-year_2006.pdf)



UNICEF's programmes in the eight tsunami-affected countries have strengthened its work with communities and partners, while providing the opportunity to learn and enhance its preparedness and response to future emergencies. As example, school models and designs from Sri Lanka and Indonesia were used in other natural disasters. The report is a description of how these various interventions have been applied in each of the eight countries affected by the tsunami, with their unique conditions and challenges. It represents the hard work of hundreds of UNICEF partners and workers and, foremost, the strides made by the children of the tsunami generation.

### **Building Back Better: A 12-month update on UNICEF's work to rebuild children's lives and restore hope since the tsunami:** [http://www.unicef.org/publications/files/TSUNAMI\\_eBOOK.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/publications/files/TSUNAMI_eBOOK.pdf)

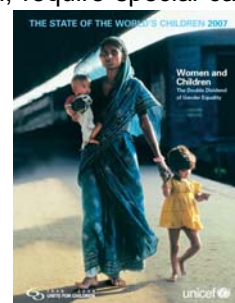
One year after the tsunami, UNICEF recounts its role in providing immediate relief and ongoing care to the thousands of families and children affected. Helping bring children back to school, providing immunization services, and assisting with registration, placement and reunification of the separated are but a few of the activities UNICEF undertook in the past 12 months. The report provides country-by-country breakdowns that include expenditure, plans and challenges, while highlighting children's stories and key partners in relief and recovery.



### **The State of the World's Children 2007: Women and Children - The double dividend of gender equality:** UNICEF, December 2006. [http://www.unicef.org/publications/index\\_36587.html](http://www.unicef.org/publications/index_36587.html)

Gender equality is central to realizing the Millennium agenda, which risks failure without the full participation of all members of society. Within the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals, and at the heart of the United Nations itself, is the acknowledgement that the vulnerable, especially children, require special care and attention. Gender equality will not only empower women to overcome poverty, but also their children, families, communities and countries. When seen in this light, gender equality is not only morally right – it is pivotal to human progress and sustainable development. Moreover, gender equality produces a double dividend: It benefits both women and children. Healthy, educated and empowered women have healthy, educated and confident daughters and sons. The amount of influence women have over the decisions in the household has been shown to positively impact the nutrition, health care and education of their children. But the benefits of gender equality go beyond their direct impact on children. Without it, it will be impossible to create a world of equity, tolerance and shared responsibility – a world that is fit for children.

*(from the Executive Summary)*



**Tamil Nadu**

**Housing and Infrastructure**

**Houses for all tsunami-hit in a few months:**

Nagapattinam: All the tsunami-affected families in the district would be provided permanent houses in a few months, said the District Collector, Tenkasi S. Jawahar, on Friday. Handing over 70 permanent houses, built by the Construction Workers Building Centre (CWBC) at a cost of Rs. 1.47 crore, to tsunami-hit families at Pazhayar, he said that 11,329 houses built by several non-governmental organisations had been handed over to tsunami victims in various parts of the district so far.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/07/07/stories/2007070760370600.htm>

**Permanent houses inaugurated:** Nagercoil: The Chairman of Caritas India and Bishop of Kottar Diocese inaugurated 329 permanent houses at Bishop Leon Colony at Colachel. Bishop Leon Nagar was created in memory of the late Kottar Bishop Leon Dharmaraj and the housing project completed at a total cost of Rs.15 crore and a sanitation facility at Rs.2.14 crore. Handing over the keys to beneficiaries of Colachel and Simon Colony parish limits, the Kottar Bishop, Peter Remigius said that the integrated tsunami shelter colony created at Colachel would serve as a model village among the tsunami habitations being created in the coastal villages of the State.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/07/15/stories/2007071550620200.htm>

**Construction of houses for tsunami-hit people soon:**

Ramanathapuram: Construction of houses under the tsunami rehabilitation scheme for the fisherfolk of the district will soon start, according to Pooja Kulkarni, Additional Collector and Project Director, Ramanathapuram District Development Agency. Speaking to The Hindu, she said that the scheme would be implemented at a cost of Rs.107 crore. A total of 4,513 houses would be constructed under the scheme. Similarly, all 52 panchayat offices in the coastal villages would also have new buildings. Each house, with a plinth area of 325 square feet, would cost Rs.2.38 lakh. She said that five standard designs had been drawn for constructing houses. The beneficiaries could

choose a design based on their taste. The areas where the houses would be constructed had also been identified.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/07/15/stories/2007071552060300.htm>

**Tsunami-hit seek amenities:** Tuticorin: Tsunami-hit families from Kayalpattinam, Veerapanidapattinam, Periyathalai and Thalamuthu Nagar staged a demonstration in front of the Collectorate on Monday seeking better facilities at the habitations constructed for them as part of the rehabilitation package. The agitators said that potable water was not supplied regularly at these colonies and hence they had to walk few km to fetch drinking water. Power supply was often erratic, they said. The residents also complained about lack of road connectivity between their respective colonies and the sea shore.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/07/10/stories/2007071056780300.htm>

**Court bars allotment of permanent houses to tsunami victims:**

Chennai: The Madras High Court has restrained the Chennai district authorities from going ahead with the allotment of 1,392 permanent houses for tsunami victims at Tondiarpet. The First Bench, comprising Chief Justice A.P. Shah and Justice P. Jyothimani, directed the authorities "to maintain status quo as of today," on a public interest litigation petition filed by five tsunami victims living in the temporary shelter in Eranavoor here. In their interim order, passed on Thursday, the judges also directed the Chennai District Collector to furnish in court the list of the allottees along with their present addresses. The matter was then adjourned to August 13 for further proceedings. The petitioners contended that through a circular dated June 23, 2007, the district administration had stated that it had decided to allot houses to 991 families living in Tsunami Nagar as of December 2006. The remaining 401 houses would be allotted on the basis of seniority by age.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/07/27/stories/2007072752840800.htm>

## Livelihoods

**Tsunami relief distributed to farmers:** Nagapattinam, July 10: A sum of Rs 40.84 lakh was distributed as revolving fund by a Sri Lanka-based organisation to 1,023 farmers of the district hit by the 2004 tsunami. Distributing the assistance yesterday, K Gopalan, Project Manager, OXFAM-GB, Ambara, said while several NGOs were involved in the immediate relief works by the state government, his organisation wanted to extend a solid and purposeful service in consultation with those who were affected very badly. After studying the situation deeply in the affected area, his organisation had discussed with the NGOs TOFARM and SIFFS, who were contemplating on activities to rehabilitate the coastal farmers whose cultivable lands were hit severely by salinity in the tsunami strike.

<http://www.chennaionline.com/colnews/newsitem.asp?NEWSID=%7B60255D45-2570-40F3-B185-F525834FC086%7D&CATEGORYNAME=TAMNA>

**SHGs told to take to mud crab-rearing:** Cuddalore: District Collector Rajendra Ratnoo has called upon the self-help groups in Killai and Parangipettai town panchayats to take to mud crab-rearing to augment their income. The Collector was speaking at a seminar on toning up the marketing skills of the SHG members at Parangipettai near here recently. Mr. Ratnoo said the mud crabs fetched good prices in the country and abroad. Since the species grew well in saline water, the coastal areas of Killai and Parangipettai would be ideal places for their rearing. Those, who were involved in the trade, were earning Rs.30,000, on an average, for three months. After meeting all the expenses, they could earn a profit of Rs.6,000 a month, and hence, it was a highly viable proposition. He called upon the SHGs to adopt modern technology in preparing dry fish, as it had ready market for the poultry feed.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/07/14/stories/2007071450660300.htm>

## *Andaman and Nicobar Islands*

**Lt. Governor visits Car Nicobar:** Port Blair, July 25. The Lt. Governor Lt. General (Retd) Bhopinder Singh, PVSM, AVSM, accompanied by a team of officers from the Administration today visited Car Nicobar and laid wreath at the tsunami memorial at Big Lapathy followed by floral tributes by others present on the occasion. Shortly after his arrival at Car Nicobar, the Lt Governor visited Breakwater Mus jetty and inspected the port restoration work.

He also visited the permanent shelter site at Kinyuka village and directed the concerned authorities that the construction work of the permanent houses must continue even during rainy season and against all odds. Thereafter, the Lt. Governor held a public meeting with local officers and tribal leaders at the APWD guesthouse at Malacca village.

<http://164.100.148.5/telegram/toppage.aspx>

## Livelihoods

**AHVS imparts goatery trng. to SHGs at Namunaghar Tsunami Shelter:** Port Blair, July 23. As a part of the project on 'Conservation of Threatened Breeds, Teressa goat' – an indigenous goat of Teressa and other Central group of Nancowrie Islands, a training on goatery as a livelihood support was conducted by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services at Tsunami shelter site at Namunaghar on

July 20, 2007 for the benefit of rural women. About 33 women from the tsunami shelter participated in it. During the program Up-Pradhan, Namunaghar Panchayat, Shri Raj Kumar highlighted the importance of goatery for marginal farmers as there is non availability of land after tsunami & ample scope for goatry since there is enormous demand for goat meat in the Islands.

<http://164.100.148.5/telegram/toppage.aspx>

## *Coastal News Snippets*

**Dyke along Thevanampattinam coast to be extended:** Cuddalore: The stone dyke laid along the Thevanampattinam coast to prevent seawater incursion will be extended for another 400 metres,

according to Rajendra Ratnoo, Collector. After inspecting the progress of works on Wednesday, along with G. Aiyappan, MLA, and Municipal Chairman T. Thangarasu, the Collector told

presspersons that an embankment of boulders had already been laid for a length of 800 metres along the coast at a cost of Rs.3 crore. The 2004 tsunami had its severe impact at the place, claiming the lives of 101 people, including 37 children. Therefore, as part of protective measures, the authorities had decided to erect the dyke along the shore to reduce the force of tidal waves at the time of cyclone and tsunami. However, care had been taken to ensure that the protective wall would not hamper the manoeuvrability of fishing boats near the shore. Mr. Ratnoo said that on the request of the fishing community, it had been proposed to extend the dyke by another 400 metres.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/07/05/stories/2007070552320300.htm>

#### **Campaign against CZM notification:**

Thiruvananthapuram: The Kerala unit of the National Campaign Committee against Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Notification has urged the Government to abort the move to replace the Coastal Regulation Zone strategy with the CZM policy. A seminar organised by the unit at the Thiruvananthapuram Press Club here on Tuesday said the CZM notification issued by the Central Government would bring untold hardship to the residents in the coastal areas of the State. Speakers at the seminar said the notification would open the coast and the offshore areas up to 12 nautical miles to construction activities and other human intervention. They called upon the Assembly to take up the issue for discussion in the ongoing session and exert pressure on the Union Government to alleviate the apprehensions of the

fisherfolk. The seminar decided to set up action committees to mobilise public opinion against the Government move to implement the notification without consulting fishworkers organisations and MPs and MLAs representing coastal constituencies.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/07/25/stories/2007072560150300.htm>

**Seawater recedes at Point Calimere:** Nagapattinam: Seawater has receded for 100 metres on the Point Calimere coast (Kodiakarai) in Vedaranyam in the district on Wednesday, causing panic among fishermen. However, the receded water transgressed and normalcy restored after a few hours. The Vedaranyam coast has been witnessing an unusual sea activity for nearly three months with receding and advancing of seawater once in three or four days.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/07/26/stories/2007072653530300.htm>

**Rs.10 lakh for sea ranching of prawns in Cuddalore:** Cuddalore: The Government has sanctioned Rs 10 lakh to the Fisheries Department for sea ranching of prawns in the district. This step has been taken to enhance the prawn stocks and to make fishing a viable proposition. The sources said in Cuddalore the Black Tiger prawn variety was being sea ranching, mainly for three reasons: the seeds were easy to procure, the species would easily proliferate, and it commanded good export market.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/07/28/stories/2007072854490600.htm>

### *About Us*

*TRINet, the Tsunami Rehabilitation Information NETwork was set up in March 2005 as a response to the broad information requirements in the state of Tamil Nadu for tsunami rehabilitation and reconstruction phases to help in sharing information between different groups working on various aspects in the different districts of the state.*

*Initiated by SIFFS: South Indian Federation of Fishermen Societies, ICSF: International Collective in Support of Fishworkers and the Bhoomika Trust, the members of TRINet include the NGO Coordination and Resource Centre (NCRC) in Nagapattinam, Auroville Tsunami Rehabilitation Knowledge Centre*

*and the Kanyakumari Rehabilitation Resource Centre (KRRCC), Nagercoil, and the information Centres in Chennai, Tuticorin, Tirunelveli and Kerala set up by SIFFS.*

*This is the twenty-sixth TRINet Newsletter since it was launched in July 2005. TRINet brings out a weekly e-digest of news on tsunami rehab in all the affected countries as well as a Tamil newsletter called "Alayathi", aimed at the communities in Tamil Nadu. If you would like to be on our mailing list, please write to us at [info.trinet@gmail.com](mailto:info.trinet@gmail.com). Please visit [www.trinet.in](http://www.trinet.in) for updates.*

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