



TRINET NEWSLETTER JULY 2007

Trying for a paradigm shift?

In the beginning

In 1972, the word 'environment' was brought into the global agenda with the "United Nations Conference on the Human Environment" (the Stockholm conference). Following this, in 1986, the Government of India passed the Environment (Protection) Act "to provide for the protection and improvement of environment and for matters connected therewith". Five years later, a notification was issued under this act that provided an unique regulatory framework for the conservation of the coastal resources by regulating developmental activities within the 'CRZ'. For regulating development activities, the coastal stretches within 500 metres of High Tide Line on the landward side were classified into four categories. CRZ-I include areas that are ecologically sensitive and important, CRZ-II are areas that have already been developed upto or close to the shoreline, CRZ -III include the rural areas and/or less developed areas and CRZ-IV, the coastal stretches in the island territories of India.

Modified and diluted

This piece of legislation has been amended 19 times so far. Three years ago, the MoEF constituted a committee chaired by Professor M.S. Swaminathan was asked to review the existing CRZ notification which submitted a report. According to a report on the Swaminathan committee report from the MoEF site, the Committee has evolved 12 basic guiding principles to govern future



decisions on coastal zone management. The urgency of this document in calling for changed coastal protection measures shows up in the twelfth

principle which states that "The severe loss of life and livelihoods as well as property caused by Tsunami in Andaman & Nicobar Islands and in the coastal regions of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Pondicherry teaches us that short term commercial interests should not be allowed to undermine the ecological security of our coastal areas. Human memory tends to be short and neglecting the lessons of Tsunami will be equivalent to writing off the future of coastal communities." The report also states that "The Committee has also recommended a National Coastal Zone Management Action Plan with an objective "to protect the coastal zone with people's participation, the livelihood security of the coastal fisher and other communities, and the ecosystem, which sustains the productivity of the coastal areas, while promoting sustainable development that contributes to nation's economy and prosperity."



The new notification

About a month ago, a copy of the draft notification of the new "Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Notification 2007: was obtained from 'informal' sources by citizens groups working on issues of coastal environment and livelihood conservation. The stated objective of this new notification is "protection and sustainable development of the coastal stretches and marine environment through sustainable coastal zone management practices based on sound, scientific principles taking into account the vulnerability of the coast to natural hazards, sustainable livelihood for local communities, and conservation of ecologically and

culturally significant coastal resources". A very lofty and needed objective but Manju Menon, Sudarshan Rodrigues and Aarthi Sridhar, in their critique of the CZM notification have written that "It is controversial and proposes to undo the existing Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 which groups have fought hard to implement."

To manage...

Nobody will deny that to manage something sounds a whole lot better than regulation, which is - being forced to comply. The rationale behind moving from "regulation" to "management" apparently was to try for a paradigm shift. Since it is known well that when a regulation is there, people try to circumvent it, the idea is that when a place has to be managed, it will be done in a cooperative manner. However, after saying that coastal resources need to be managed with people's participation, should not consultations be held with those people before even drafting such a notification?

A **regulation** is a legal restriction promulgated by government administrative agencies through rulemaking supported by a threat of sanction or a fine. Regulation mandated by the government or state attempts to produce outcomes which might not otherwise occur, produce or prevent outcomes in different places to what might otherwise occur, or produce or prevent outcomes in different timescales than would otherwise occur.

Management comprises directing and controlling a group of one or more people or entities for the purpose of coordinating and harmonizing that group towards accomplishing a goal. Management operates through various functions, often classified as planning, organizing, leading/motivating and controlling.

[Wikipedia](#)

What are the new CZM notification's new zones? Like the four CRZ areas, there are to be four CZM classes (see box).

Opening up

How is this any improvement over the CRZ? The biggest concern is over the definition of CMZ-II which clearly opens up practically the entire coastal area of the country to 'development', quite unlikely to be 'sustainable development'. There is also going to be the setback line demarcated

along the coast, based on its vulnerability to natural and manmade hazards including elevation, geomorphology, sea level trends, horizontal shoreline displacement, tidal ranges and wave heights. Is this going to be done so easily? Even after over 15 years of the CRZ notification, how much of the HTL demarcation as called for by that notification been done? And is vulnerability only to be based on physical natural hazards as the components to evaluate vulnerability indicate?

Categorization of the Coastal Zone in the new draft notification: For the purpose of management and regulation, the coastal zone shall be divided into four categories;

- i) Coastal Management Zone - I (CMZ - I) shall consist of areas designated as Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESA), which are listed generically in Appendix - II.
- ii) Coastal Management Zone- II (CMZ - II) shall consist of areas, other than CMZ - I and coastal waters, identified as "Areas of Particular Concern (APC)" such as economically important areas, high population density areas, and culturally/strategically important areas. The administrative boundaries of these "Areas of Particular Concern" would be boundaries of CMZ - II. The generic list of such areas is given in Appendix - III.
- iii) Coastal Management Zone - III (CMZ - III) shall consist of all other open areas including coastal waters, that is all areas excluding those classified as CMZ - I, II and IV.
- iv) In respect of the islands in Coastal Management Zone - IV (CMZ - IV) shall consist of inlands territories of Andaman and Nicobar, Lakshadweep, and other offshore islands.
- v) coastal backwaters areas which are not included in CMZ - I or CMZ - II, such areas may be included in CMA - IV at the option of the Local Authority; otherwise they would be included in CMA - III. Once exercised, the option of the Local Authority would not be subject to change.

A paradigm shift?

Paradigm shifts do not come so easily – by mere changing of words. Sustainable development is not an easy thing either. It will certainly not be achieved by mere usage of politically correct words and terms. In fact, as Menon et al put it succinctly: "*the CZM Notification presents itself as a brazen attempt at disempowering fishworkers and traditional coastal communities, and making available 'premium' lands in coastal areas to commercial interests by dismantling all protective and regulatory mechanisms that can restrict unplanned development.*"

Further reading:

- Report of Professor M.S. Swaminathan Committee. on Review of Coastal Regulation Zone. Notification, 1991. <http://envfor.nic.in/news/janmar05/swaminathan.pdf>
- Report of the Committee Chaired by Prof. M.S. Swaminathan to Review the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification 1991 http://mssrf.org/rm/reports/crz_report_prof/crz_report.pdf
- Review of the Swaminathan Committee Report on the CRZ Notification, UNDP, New Delhi: http://www.atree.org/Swaminathan_Review.doc
- Manju Menon, Sudarshan Rodrigues and Aarthi Sridhar, 2007. "Coastal Management Zone Notification - Better or bitter fare?" Draft presented at National Consultation Impending Threat to the Coastal Zone in Chennai on 11th June 2007

CZM - a campaign is launched

A National Consultation on Impending Threat to the Coastal Zone was organized by TRINet at Chennai on 11 June 2007 on behalf of the National Fishworkers Forum (NFF) to understand the implications of the new Coastal Zone Management Legislation available currently in a draft form. About 85 participants from all over India attended the consultation. A presentation on the salient features of the proposed CZM regulation was made by Sudarshan Rodrigues and supplemented by Aarthi Sridhar of ATree. A vociferous discussion was held on the various aspects of the new draft notification. At the end of the consultation, a statement was prepared and signed by over 60 people belonging to about 25 fishworker organizations, NGOs and others. Following the consultation, a press meeting was held and a campaign against the notification was launched with the NFF spearheading it.

Below is the statement issued at the consultation:

Millions of traditional fisher people of India along with many academicians, activists and civil society groups, concerned with conservation of coastal resources and sustainable traditional livelihood, are seriously perturbed to know that all their concerns and protests have fallen on the deaf ears of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) and the highly contentious Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Notification based on the Swaminathan Committee to replace the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification of 1991 is in the offing.

Our coasts are increasingly being targeted for destructive 'development' practices. In line with it the CRZ Notification of 1991 was amended as many as 19 times chiefly under pressure from commercial interests. Against this backdrop, doing away with the 1991 Notification altogether, and introducing, in its place, a CZM Notification is nothing but a

blatant effort to facilitate greater commercialization of the coastal zone.

The zonation, particularly CMZ II, paves the way for the proliferation of SEZs, ports, tourist resorts, mining and similar activities in large areas of the coastal zone. It also paves the way for displacement of fishing communities from their habitats and the areas they have traditionally used and fished especially as the Swaminathan Committee has not, in its recommendations, recognized the traditional and customary rights of fishing communities to their habitat, highlighted in the 1991 Notification.

With the new Notification, all violations that have taken place since 1991 under the CRZ Notification, mainly by commercial interests, with severe implications for the social and ecological integrity of the coastal zone and traditional livelihoods, are likely to be condoned. This will again be a concession to

commercial interests that have blatantly violated the provisions of the earlier Notification.

The very existence and future of fishing and other natural-resource dependent communities is linked to the health of the coastal ecosystem. Effective protection of coastal habitats and regulation of activity in the coastal zone is very much in the interests of coastal communities, and fishing communities have taken several initiatives to protect coastal habitats and resources.

However, even as large areas of the coastal zone declared as CMZ II are likely to be taken over for unsustainable development, areas declared as CMZ I, for conservation, are likely to pose as much threat to livelihoods of fishing communities, if the non-participatory, exclusionary approaches adopted by the MoEF in marine protected areas in India so far, are anything to go by.

The proposed expansion of the coastal zone to include territorial waters, that is, from the shore to 12 nautical miles, has major implications for livelihoods of fishing communities, but the draft of the new Notification does not explicitly mention that this area should be managed with full participation of fishing communities, and that their rights to fish in this area should be protected and promoted, including in proposed CMZ-1 areas.

The proposed Notification, therefore, poses serious threats to livelihoods of coastal fishing communities and to coastal ecosystems.

In this context it is pertinent to remind that:

1. Article 10 (c) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) directs to: **"Protect and encourage customary use of biological resources in accordance with traditional cultural practices that are compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements"**.
2. Para 38, Principle 5 in the "Principles and guidelines for incorporating wetland

issues into Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)" annexed to **Ramsar Resolution VIII.4** states that **"Participation of local communities and indigenous peoples in ICZM is particularly important where they have customary rights or tenure in the coastal zone"**.

3. Article 10.1.2 of the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries states: **"In view of the multiple uses of the coastal area, States should ensure that representatives of the fisheries sector and fishing communities are consulted in the decision-making processes and involved in other activities related to coastal area management planning and development"**; and Article 10.1.3 states: **"States should develop, as appropriate, institutional and legal frameworks in order to determine the possible uses of coastal resources and to govern access to them, taking into account the rights of coastal fishing communities and their customary practices to the extent compatible with sustainable development."**

Any legal dispensation for coastal zone management must be compatible with the above as India has ratified all these international instruments.

We, therefore, totally reject all attempts to replace the 1991 Notification and demand that:

1. The CRZ notification in its original 1991 form shall prevail and be firmly implemented till a new comprehensive legislation is enacted that satisfies the requirements of the fishing communities
2. All violations committed under the CRZ Notification 1991 be penalized with utmost urgency. Punitive measures shall be immediately announced as per Environment Protection Act.

3. All efforts to replace CRZ Notification until the comprehensive legislation is enacted, be stopped.
4. A comprehensive legislation (to protect coastal environment and the livelihoods of coastal communities) on the basis of public consultations, particularly with fishing and other natural-resource dependent communities, with customary rights in the coastal zone, be enacted, to –
 - a. Conserve coastal resources
 - b. Protect customary use and sustainable traditional livelihood practices dependent on coastal resources
 - c. Ensure community-based and participatory coastal management
5. Settlements and customary uses of coastal spaces by the 3000 odd marine fishing villages along India's coastline identified by the Marine Fisheries Census, 2005, be recognized and regularized.
6. Interests of other communities traditionally depending on coastal resources for their livelihood should also be considered when enacting the new legislation.

Child Secretariat at Nagapattinam

A third of the deaths in Nagapattinam due to the tsunami were of children – 1776 children were reported dead. A number of children were also left orphaned – losing one or both parents to the tsunami. 41 elementary schools, two high schools and a higher secondary school were completely damaged. The NGO Coordination and Resource Centre (NCRC) included children in their sectoral approach to rehab after the disaster. From September 2005, focus on this sector was increased after realizing that:

- Despite many NGOs doing excellent work in their respective areas, the responses were scattered and compartmentalized.
- The issues related to children are common rather than being locale specific. There was a need for a comprehensive approach.
- There was a felt need for joint advocacy efforts to address larger issues relating to children

The children sector has now emerged as a "Child Secretariat (CSt)". The CSt, registered under the Registration of Society Act of Tamil Nadu, 1975, will be a network of NGOs, supported by the district administration, working for the sustainable and the integral



development of all the children in Nagapattinam district. The Collector is the Chairperson and has agreed to send representatives from various departments connected with the children to be the members for the Steering Committee.

The Vision is to "Create a Child Friendly District where child hood is the right of every child and all children are ensured about their rights and enjoy a happy child hood" and the Mission is to "Promote child protection policies and practices amongst stakeholders and children for ensuring the overall development of all children".

The specific objectives are to:

1. Bring all the NGOs in the district together and provide a platform to exercise a participatory role towards child protection.
2. Influence the Government mechanisms and work towards building an integrated and comprehensive approach towards child protection between NGOs and government.
3. Influence the district administration to evolve child protection policy and formulate child protection council as enshrined in the Juvenile Justice (Care

and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 as amended in 2006.

4. Work for the effective functioning of DLACS, VLWDCS, CWC and JJB.
5. Undertake community education, awareness programmes, and capacity building of stakeholders on child rights and child protection issues.

6. Evolve mechanisms for inter and intra district and inter state coordination and linkages to prevent trafficking of children.
7. Undertake research based activities and activity based researches.
8. Compile and publish the activities of the children in the district.

Information from NCRC www.ncrc.in

Ecosan Festival

Society for Community Organisation and People's Education (SCOPE), Tiruchi organized an Ecosan Festival in the coastal tsunami affected village of Kameshwaram from June 1 to June 7th 2007. This village has a unique place in the sanitation map of India with the farmers affected by Tsunami close to the sea choosing very boldly to construct 100 Ecosan toilets in the village.



UNICEF as a special case extended Rs.4,000 as subsidy for construction of 150 ecosan toilets in Kameshwaram village. The DRDA advanced Rs.1,200 per toilet, and the SOS, FIN of France Rs.1.5 lakhs. All the families also paid about Rs.2200 as their contribution for the toilet. On the eve of the festival in each ward special meetings were held highlighting the need for toilets and the special features of Ecosan Toilets. The members of the Self Help Groups and the ward councilor were in charge of the programme in the ward. Mr.C.G.Kanagasundaram, President of the Kameswaram Panchayat and Ms.Shanti, Vice President, were in charge of the programme. The SCOPE team headed by Mr.M.Subburaman Director, Mr.V.Ganapathy, M.Mathialagan Coordinator of the Programme and Field Supervisor Mr.Paranjothi spared no efforts to make the festival a success.



near the houses. The women, children and men took part in the mass cleaning of the streets and open places and decorating the streets with festoons, flower garlands and kolams. A team of 50 masons under the supervision of Mr.Devadoss were given training for the fabrication of Squatting slabs, roof slabs and chamber slabs. The construction of each toilet took no more than 3 days in every house. The involvement of the family members in the construction also helped in they understanding the usage practices and the logic of the various facilities and precautions to be taken for the proper maintenance of the Ecosan toilets.

Special sessions focusing on different environmental and sanitation matters were held daily in the wards. The subjects were hygiene, Ecosan toilet usage, solid waste management, Water-borne diseases, hand-washing practices and training for ICDS workers, link volunteers and menstrual hygiene for adolescent girls. The cultural programmes and film shows held in all the wards on theme of sanitation organised by the Directorate of field publicity of the Govt. of India, for the whole week were highly educative and entertaining. The village now has 250 ecosan toilets, of which the last 57 were constructed in the one week festival.

Information courtesy SCOPE,
Tiruchirapalli.

Email:scopeagency86@rediffmail.com

On the eve of the festival, in each ward all the construction materials were unloaded

Update from the TN Government

Update on the Tsunami related activities in Tamil Nadu (As on 31st May 2007): The Government of Tamil Nadu has so far sanctioned funds to the tune of Rs.1774.31 crore upto 30.04.2007 for relief and rehabilitation activities in the areas affected by tsunami with the assistance of Government of India. The details of relief on the various items of assistance are given in <http://www.tn.gov.in/tsunami/tsunami-relief.htm>.

Out of 54105 houses taken up for construction, 27479 houses have been completed. 5075 houses will be completed by June 2007, 1935 houses by Aug 2007. 1419 houses by October 2007 and 1231 houses by December 2007. The balance 16966 houses will be ready by 30.09.2008. Out of 27479 houses completed, 21195 houses have been handed over to the beneficiaries. In the second phase, it has been proposed to construct 52,569 houses for the vulnerable people in the coastal districts of Tamil Nadu. Government of Tamil Nadu has issued a Government Order for constructing 22000 houses in vulnerable areas of the coastal districts under the Government of India

package at a cost of Rs.552 crore. It has been proposed to construct 5000 houses by January 2008, 8000 houses by May 2008 and 9000 houses by August 2008. The rest of the houses will be completed by March 2009.

<http://www.tn.gov.in/tsunami/tsunami-relief.htm>

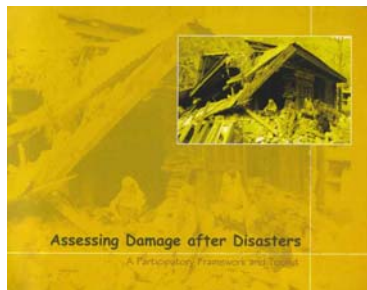
Consultant sought for tsunami housing project: Chennai: The State Government has invited expressions of interest from consultancy firms to manage the project to construct 7,320 tenements for the tsunami-affected in Nochikuppam and Srinivasapuram located in Foreshore Estate here. The project management consultant will have to liaise between the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, the implementing agency, and the Project Monitoring Unit of the State government. The construction of permanent houses for the families is part of the Emergency Tsunami Reconstruction Project, which is funded by the World Bank. The project cost for tenements in Nochikuppam and Srinivasapuram is Rs. 195.5 crore.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/06/20/stories/2007062074820300.htm>

Useful Reads

Assessing Damage after Disasters: A Participatory Framework and Toolkit by Vivek Rawal and Dinesh Prajapati, 2007. UNNATI, Ahmedabad, India.

Post disaster damage assessment can be broadly divided into two parts namely situation assessment and needs assessment. This booklet has been developed to provide field practitioners working in post-disaster humanitarian response with a participatory and vulnerability focused framework and appropriate effective tools to carry out the multi-sectoral focused framework and appropriate effective tools to carry out the multi-sectoral damage assessment.



The key concepts include vulnerability reduction, social inclusion, community participation and gender perspective. Based on the key concepts, damage assessment focuses on vulnerability and contributes towards reducing it through response and development programming.

The toolkit is meant to equip multi-disciplinary teams with a range of tools and techniques that are intensive, iterative and

participatory – to gather useful and accurate information of various types of damages after 3-4 weeks of a disaster. The guidebook has tried to cover major losses and damage in different sectors and explain the need for required information. A tentative format and appropriate tools for collection of the required information is suggested. The damage assessments include that to human life, housing, community infrastructure,

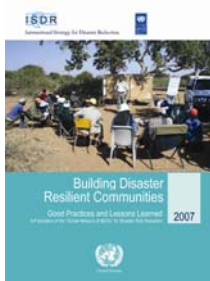
environment, livelihood, health and psycho-social impacts. Each type of damage is discussed in the form of three main questions – what, why and how. In addition to these, there is a short note on the impact of disasters on women.

For further information and copies, please write to Unnati at psu_unnati@unnati.org

Building disaster resilient communities – good practices and lessons learnt. UNISDR, 2007. A Publication of the “Global Network of NGOs” for Disaster Risk Reduction, Geneva, June 2007

http://www.unisdr.org/eng/about_isdr/isdr-publications/06-ngos-good-practices/ngos-good-practices.pdf

This publication is a joint effort of the “Global Network of NGOs for Disaster Risk Reduction”, an emerging network of national and international NGOs aiming to reduce disaster risk worldwide. The idea of publishing a compilation of good practices in Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) has come out from a consultative meeting held with the core members of the “Global Network of NGOs” in Geneva, in October 2006. This publication showcases the essential roles played by NGOs in addressing disaster risks at the local community level. It makes the case for



increased community-oriented DRR action, and is aimed to stimulate more interest in the subject from donors, policy makers, as well as other stakeholders. For ease of reference, an abstract is provided at the beginning of each good practice and each of them is presented in a format that enables the reader to go directly to a particular section of the case study (lessons learned, potential for replication, and so forth). Contact details for each of the case studies presented are also available at the end of the publication. It includes two studies from India (SEEDS and AIDMI).

Rehab News Snippets

Tamil Nadu

Housing and Infrastructure

French body builds houses for tsunami victims: Porayar, June 2: French voluntary organisation 'Ordre de Malte', has constructed and handed over 63 permanent houses for the tsunami survivors of Chinoorpet village near here. At a function here Friday, Director of Ordre de Malte, Count Yann Baggio handed over the keys of the houses to Kandaswamy, Special Deputy Collector (Tsunami Rehabilitation), who in turn handed over them to the survivors of the disaster. The organisation has also provided a fish processing centre and a community hall in Tarangambadi village.
<http://www.hindu.com/thehindu/holnus/004200706022020.htm>

19,500 houses for tsunami survivors: Nagapattinam, June 8: As many as 19,500 houses were being constructed in the district by various NGOs for the survivors of December 2004 tsunami,

district collector Tenkasi S Jawahar said today. All these permanent shelters were coming up at 89 separate places in the district, he said in a statement here. Meanwhile, for the people who lost their houses in Ariyanattu street in Nagapattinam town, new shelters were being constructed in Andanapettai, Savariarkoil and Mahalakshmi nagar. The NGO TMSSS was constructing 222, 285 and 210 houses respectively in these three places and the works were nearing completion, he said.

<http://www.chennaionline.com/colnews/newsitem.asp?NEWSID=%7B8F694CEB-5551-496D-BEF7-1C8451FAF0BA%7D&CATEGORYNAME=TAMNA>

ADB team inspects port development works: Nagapattinam: A team of officials from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), led by Tadashi Kondo, Country Director, New Delhi, on Tuesday inspected

the tsunami reconstruction works being carried out in the port here with ADB assistance of Rs.44.58 crore. The Officer on Special Duty (Relief), Disaster Management and Mitigation Department, C.V. Sankar, the Collector, Tenkasi S. Jawahar, the Port Officer, Tamil Nadu Maritime Board, S. Sainath, and other officials accompanied the ADB team during its inspection. Mr. Sankar explained to the team leader and other members the first phase of works that were carried out in the port at a cost of about Rs.10 crore. He also gave details about other works, including strengthening of the north and south breakwater with natural stones and also extending the breakwater for easy movement of the vessels. Mr. Sankar said that the reconstruction works included construction of five cargo buildings and pointed out that a dredger would also be purchased at a cost of Rs.7 crore. All the works would be completed within the stipulated time, he added.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/06/13/stories/2007061308570300.htm>

Tsunami temporary shelters destroyed:

Nagapattinam: About 30 tsunami temporary shelters built by a non-governmental organisation at Chinnangudi coastal hamlet near Porayar in Nagapattinam district were destroyed in a fire that broke out on Saturday. Police sources said the cause of the fire was due to a spark from oven from one of the shelters. Fire service personnel from

Livelihoods

Non-functioning of auction centre irks fishermen: Nagapattinam: The non-functioning of the fish landing and auction centre built at a cost of more than Rs.1.50 crore has irked fishermen here. The centre was built for the benefit of fishermen of Nagapattinam, Akkaraipettai, Keechankuppam and nearby coastal hamlets. The Government did not take any steps to provide concrete flooring at the fish landing centre in spite of repeated representations made by the fishermen associations. Angered over the lethargic attitude of the Government, nearly two hundred fishermen from Akkaraipettai and Keechankuppam resorted to a road blockade agitation for about 30 minutes at Melakottaivasal junction on the national highway here on Saturday morning demanding the Government to allow them to auction their fish at the Nagapattinam port area till the new centre was provided with all necessary facilities.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/06/03/stories/2007060307730300.htm>

NGO provides free iceboxes to women fish vendors: Nagapattinam: Human Trust, a non-governmental organisation, engaged in formation and strengthening of fisher women livelihood groups, on Friday distributed iceboxes to 162

Tarangampadi put out the fire. Nobody was injured in the accident. Revenue officials visited the spot.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/06/24/stories/2007062454950400.htm>

Construction of houses for tsunami victims to be taken up soon: Chennai: Construction of houses in south Chennai for 13,000 families affected by the tsunami will be taken up soon, Electricity Minister Arcot N.Veerasingam said on Wednesday. At a meeting organised to discuss rehabilitation of the tsunami victims here, he said the Slum Clearance Board would take up the work. The meeting decided that 960 tenements constructed by the Board at a cost of Rs 20.88 crore at Tondiarpet on the land given free by Hindustan Lever Limited and 432 tenements constructed at Tilakar Nagar be allocated to those who were temporarily rehabilitated in a place in Ernavur. Before this month-end, the families from this area would be rehabilitated and settled. The tsunami-affected families of north Chennai should be selected for the remaining 401 tenements. The selection should be made on the basis of the number of adult members in the family. The allotment and settlement of these beneficiaries should be completed before the month-end. A total of 1,106 more families were there in north Chennai, and they would be settled in tenements to be constructed on the land belonging to AIR at Tiruvottiyur, it was decided.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/06/21/stories/2007062155690500.htm>

women fish vendors of Thirumullaivasal and Olakottaimedu in Sirkazhi taluk to ensure sustainable livelihood for headload women fish vendors. According to Rajlet Mani, Project Officer of Human Trust, each icebox costing Rs.1,480 was provided free of cost to women fish vendors identified by the Human Trust.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/06/10/stories/2007061008030300.htm>

Fishing net mending hall planned at Kokilamedu: Chennai: Construction of a fishing net mending hall will soon begin at Kokilamedu village near Mahabalipuram. The new facility is part of the tsunami rehabilitation programme taken up jointly by Exnora and Deutsche Bank. Jeorg Eduard Krumsiek, Director of Corporate Social Responsibility, Deutsche Bank, who inspected the works, said the bank would take up similar projects in association with Exnora. Mangalam Balasubramanian, vice-chairman, Exnora, said the NGO had taken up rehabilitation works in two villages, Kokilamedu and Venpurusham in Kancheepuram district, and Levingipuram in Tirunelveli district last year. The works were taken up at a total cost of Rs 68 lakh and so far the Exnora had completed works to the tune of Rs 43

lakh. The total cost of the works was borne by the bank, she said. Talking about the various rehabilitation programmes at Kokilamedu and Venpurusham, she said work on constructing 48 toilets in both the villages were completed and 68 toilets would be constructed very soon. Similarly,

the adopted villages would get two fishing net mending halls at a total cost of Rs 18 lakh. Already work on one hall had been nearing completion and soon it would be dedicated to local villagers, she said.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/06/13/stories/2007061313270700.htm>

Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Full text of the Supreme Court dated May 16, 2007 related to post tsunami relief and rehab work in the Andaman and Nicobar islands: <http://judis.nic.in/supremecourt/qrydisp.asp?fnm=29079>

Livelihoods

Training on use of power tiller, pumpset. Port Blair, June 13. An eight day training programme on use of power tiller and diesel engine pumpset for the tsunami affected farmers has begun at CARI, Garacharma on Monday, which will continue upto June 18, 2007. The training is being attended by 19 farmers from Nancowrie, Katchal, Shoal Bay, Mithakhari, Collinpur, Guptapara, Namunaghar,

Chouldari and Temple Myo. The objective is to impart skill to the farmers and youth on use of power tiller in field operations, their maintenance and repair of power tiller. Besides the demonstration on use of power tiller, hand on training on diesel engine pumpset operation, maintenance and repair will be imparted.

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

Kerala

State facing severe sea erosion: Thiruvananthapuram: Kerala is facing unusually severe sea erosion this month, Minister for Water Resources N.K. Premachandran said on Friday. He was visiting the affected areas here. There was demand for protection of the coasts using tetra pods, Mr. Premachandran said. Though the Government had received a study conducted by the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in this respect, the costs were prohibitive. However, two breakwaters using tetra pods would be constructed near Poonthura estuary in the Thiruvananthapuram

district on an experimental basis. Similar experimental works would be taken up in Kollam and Alappuzha district also, he said. It would be possible to spend Rs.300 crore under the Award of the Central Finance Commission and the Tsunami Rehabilitation Project for construction of sea wall in the next four years, Mr. Premachandran said. But rock needed for the work was not available from approved quarries.

<http://www.hindu.com/2007/06/09/stories/2007060910810400.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 (KRRRC), Nagercoil, and the information Centres in Chennai, Tuticorin, Tirunelveli and Kerala set up by SIFFS.

*This is the twenty-fifth 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. Please visit www.trinet.in for updates.*

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