



யாழ். மாவட்ட
அரசு சார்பற்ற நிறுவனங்களின் இணையம்
COUNCIL OF NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS
(NGOs) JAFFNA DISTRICT

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Situation Report – February 2005

1.0 GENERAL SITUATION

February 4th in the Jaffna District was observed as a day of mourning and Black flags were hoisted in business establishments and public places while National flag was hoisted in the Secretariat, Government offices and in the army camps.

Even though civil affairs officer at Manipay Army Camp agreed to pay rent to the 29 houses occupied at Ponnalai in Chankanai DS Division, they have not been paid their rent. This was brought to the notice at the Coordinating Committee meeting held at Chankanai DS office. Manipay camp civil affairs Officer M.S. Jeyantha said that he would make arrangements to effect the payment.

Members of the Political Wing of LTTE Jaffna and high ranking officials of the security forces met at SLMM office in Jaffna and discussed about the removal of obstacles faced by the Tsunami affected people.

Three girls under 18 years of age, who volunteered to join LTTE cadres were turned back and handed over to their parents at the Point Pedro LTTE office, all are from Alvai and Point Pedro area.

People had high hopes that with the ceasefire agreement, peace will usher early. But now three years have lapsed with no positive sign of peace. The Government should make use of the opportunity afforded by the Tsunami to build trust and confidence by its unbiased action to woo the LTTE by actively involving them in the disaster management work in the North who really know the real problems of the suffering people.

Mrs. Viesso Reksiyas, Minister, German Federal Republic paid a visit to the Tsunami affected areas in the Jaffna District and gave 15 plastic fishing boats to the affected along with the gears, nets, etc. also donated some money as well. After this she and her officials paid a visit to J/ Driberg College and inspected the building being constructed by GTZ at a cost of 35 million.

Federation of IDPs societies staged a protest in front of Thellipallai Divisional Secretary's office, requesting that they be allowed to resettle in their own lands which are within HSZ.

Forty two prisoners from the Jaffna Prison were released by the Her Excellency the President on the Independence Day.

Large crowd participated in various protest processions held in Jaffna in protest against the killing of LTTE Political wing leader Kausalyan and Ex. M.P. Chandra Nehru.

2.0 TSUNAMI

Unlike in the South, North which suffered severe losses and sufferings due to war has again been affected by Tsunami Disaster. The extent of damages is detailed below.

Families in welfare centres

	<u>No of families</u>	<u>No of members</u>
Point Pedro	40	165
Maruthankerny		
Govt. controlled Area	79	295
LTTE controlled Area	2219	7987

Families with Relations and Friends

Point Pedro	3875	14475
Maruthankerny		
Govt. controlled Area	11	31
LTTE controlled Area	725	3041

Vocationally Affected people

Point Pedro	2495	9231
Maruthankerny		
Govt. controlled Area	455	1714
LTTE controlled Area	328	1318

Relief payment effected by Rehabilitation unit

<u>Funeral Expenses</u>	<u>No of families</u>	
Point Pedro	113	Rs. 15,000.00 paid to 97 families Rs. 10,000.00 paid to 02 families Required document not submitted by 14 families

Maruthankerny		
Govt. controlled area	74	Payment effected to 69 families
LTTE controlled area	1038	Payment effected to 697 families Required documents not submitted by 341 families

Payment for cooking utensils – Rs. 2,500.00

Point Pedro	4169	3837
Maruthankerny		
Govt. controlled Area	350	108
LTTE controlled Area	3272	2397

Government Agent has requested the Divisional Secretaries of Point Pedro and Maruthankerny to submit full report in respect of the families who have not received the payment before 28.02.2005.

Dry ration stamps for the value of Rs. 200.00 and Rs. 175.00 are being issued.

Detail of Construction of Temporary Shelters.

HUDEC	508
Sewa Lanka	219
UNHCR	482
White Pigeon	75
Save the Children in Sri Lanka	125

Approximately 10% of the above number completed by the end of the month.

Detail of Supply of Boats to Fishing Community

Humedica	90
GTZ	15
Christian Organisation	05

3.0 EDUCATION

On February 2nd Suthumalai Sinmaya Bharathy students had a narrow escape when a part of the roof collapsed while the class was going on injuring fifteen students and they were admitted the General Hospital, Jaffna.

Out of the 14 schools damaged by Tsunami, Additional Provincial Director had recommended that 11 schools had to be shifted and reconstructed in a new places and they have identified the places to construct the following schools in Maruthankerny.

1. Mamunai GTMS
2. Thalaisyady RCTMS
3. Vettilaikerny RCTMS
4. Vettilaikerny Parameswara Vid.
5. Aliyawalai CCTMS
6. Manalkadu RCTMS

A complaint of refusal of admission to Grade I was made by the parent Mahendran to the Human Rights Commission against the Principal, Kokuvil Hindu College even though the student is living within 400 meters of the college. The child was admitted after the production of necessary documents.

4.0 HEALTH

Punguduthivu Government hospital is functioning only in the evening. The Doctor in charge has been transferred and Doctor attached to Velanai dispensary is covering up. Health authorities should take urgent action to fill this vacancy.

Indian Government has promised to provide necessary fund to update medical facilities to the base hospital Point Pedro, when they visited the hospital. Indian High Commissioner along with Indian Government Health Ministry officials paid a visit to the Jaffna Teaching Hospital as well.

In the Jaffna District there are many vacancies for Pharmacists and Laboratory Technicians. Action should be taken by the Health authorities to fill these cadres and other paramedical staff which is in dearth.

5.0 AGRICULTURE

Onion cultivation suffered severe damages due to heavy rains in December and subsequent insect attack resulting in low yield. As a result poor farmers are undergoing severe financial hardships.

Paddy harvest - An average yield this year even though the cost of cultivation was very high due to high cost of labour and manure.

6.0 NIEAP

Rs. 400 million has been allocated for the Jaffna District under NIEAP II of which 200 million was apportioned for Valukkai Aru Rehabilitation work. The NGOs Council expressed its dissatisfaction on the above allocation, due to the following facts (1) under NIEAP I though 400 million was promised for the District, only 80 million was granted. This was

brought to the notice of the authorities in 2003 and a request was made to compensate this loss in NIEAP II. There was an understanding that 150 villages would be taken up under NIEAP II which means 750 million should here been allocated. As per present situation only 25 villages could be taken up for Community Development. This action has severely disappointed the farmers in the Jaffna Peninsula.

7.0 DEMINING

At Chavakachcheri on the 12th of February a carpenter while sweeping his carpentry shop at the end of the day and setting fire to the waste, there were about seven to eight blasts sounds emerged from the fire he had litted causing injuries to left leg back of the knee.

On the 23rd of February at Ealalai in Kupplan South a labour while uprooting palmyrah trees with two other persons and cleaning the roots at the bottom there was a sudden blast causing injuries to the left eye and head. There is a mine field close by and demining is in progress.

T. Thevananth
Hony. Secretary