



யாழ். மாவட்ட
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COUNCIL OF NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS
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Situation Report – May 2005

1.0 GENERAL SITUATION

May Day 2005 was held in Jaffna with great fanfare. The feelings of Tamil Nationalism was clearly evident in a massive procession that started from Nallur Murugan temple and ended at Jaffna Medical Faculty grounds where a public meeting was held by Trade Unions, Cooperative Sector, Public Bodies and the Commerce sector.

Media personnel in the Jaffna District assembled in front of the Human Rights Commission office on 7th May with a coffin and staged a protest against the killing of prominent journalist T. Sivaram (Tharaki) in Colombo.

Dry ration issued to 40,000 IDP families has been stopped, creating undue hardship to these families especially those who lost their bread winners during the war.

A motor vehicle erupted in flames after filling at a gas station in Marutharmadam and was completely burnt. It has come to light that there were no fire extinguishers at this gas station.

Consequent to the public protest against the killing of a civilian by the army at Santhiveli in Batticaloa on 9th May there has been a number of reports of army harassment and intimidation of those who took part in the protest. This includes a number of leading community leaders and local MPs. A Hartal was observed in the North East and everything ground to a halt on 10th May, 2005 as a protest against the killing and the unwarranted intimidation by the army.

62% of tappers have given up their trade and are moving onto other work. Over the years of military occupation, large tracts of palmyrah and coconut trees on private property have been arbitrarily cleared to make way for HSZs.

Of the 35 GS Divisions in Vadamarachy North, eight divisions are without permanent Grama Sevakas. Due to these acute staff shortages, GSs have to cover for up to three divisions. This has put further strains on the war devastated administration and will certainly reduce the quality of service that will be available for the Tsunami affected people.

2.0 TSUNAMI

2.01 *Temporary Shelters*

Current status of temporary shelter construction. Stage 1 will include construction of shelters for families at temporary welfare centres, while Stage 2 will cover families currently staying with friends and relatives.

| | Location for Temporary Shelters | Total Requirements | Land Identified Construction | Shelters | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------|------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| | | | | Implementation Agency | Commenced | Work in Progress | Completed | No of Families Moved |
| Stage I | Thondamanaru | 16 | 16 | HUDEC | 16 | - | 16 | 16 |
| | Athikovilady | 132 | 132 | Sewa Lanka | 132 | 102 | 30 | 30 |
| | Valvettithurai | 75 | 75 | White Pigeon SCF Funding) | 75 | - | 75 | 75 |
| | Polikandy West | 51 | 51 | HUDEC | 51 | 15 | 36 | 36 |
| | Polikandy East | 64 | 64 | HUDEC | 64 | - | 64 | 64 |
| | Senthankulam (Thikkam) | 50 | 50 | HUDEC | 50 | - | 50 | 50 |
| | Sakkodai | 50 | 50 | HUDEC | 50 | - | 50 | 50 |
| | Inpuridy | 131 | 131 | HUDEC | 131 | 18 | 113 | 113 |
| | Viyaparimulai | 15 | 15 | SCF | 15 | - | 15 | 15 |
| | Erinchchamman Kovilady | 41 | 41 | HUDEC | 41 | - | 41 | 41 |
| | Suppermadam | 41 | 41 | Sewa Lanka | 41 | - | 41 | 41 |
| | Koddady | 35 | 35 | Sewa Lanka | 35 | - | 35 | 35 |
| | Munai | 80 | 80 | SCF | 80 | - | 80 | 80 |
| | Thumpalai East | 105 | 105 | HUDEC | 105 | - | 105 | 105 |
| | Katkovalam | 58 | 58 | UNHCR | 58 | - | 58 | 58 |
| | Punithanagar (Nagar kovil) | 101 | 101 | UNHCR | 101 | - | 101 | 101 |
| | Manalkadu | 232 | 232 | UNHCR | 232 | - | 232 | 232 |
| Potpathy | 68 | 68 | UNHCR | 68 | - | 68 | 68 | |
| Total | 1345 | 1345 | | 1345 | 135 | 1210 | 1210 | |
| Stage II | | | | | | | | |
| | Thondamanaru | 49 | 49 | HUDEC | | | | |
| | Valvettithurai | 42 | 42 | SCF | | | | |
| | Polikandy West | 31 | 31 | HUDEC | | | | |
| | Polikandy East | 68 | 68 | LEADS | | | | |
| | Thikkam – Senthankulam | 5 | 5 | HUDEC | | | | |
| | Sakkodai | 74 | 74 | FORUT | 20 | 20 | | |
| | Inpurity | 14 | 14 | FORUT | 6 | | 6 | 6 |
| | Suppermadam | 27 | 27 | Sewa Lanka | | | | |
| | Point Pedro East | 146 | 146 | SCF | | | | |
| | Thumbalai East | 24 | 24 | HUDEC | | | | |
| | Katkovalam | 34 | 34 | LEADS | | | | |
| Punithanagar | 11 | 11 | UNHCR | | | | | |
| Total | 525 | 525 | | 26 | 20 | 6 | 6 | |

2.02 Roads for Immediate Rehabilitation

| | Name of Roads | Length of Roads (Km) | Total estimated cost (Million) |
|--------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Kodukkilai Nagapar Road | 1.00 | 2.38 |
| 2 | Aliyavalai School Road | 0.90 | 2.15 |
| 3 | Pokkarupu Nithiyavadai Road | 3.42 | 13.80 |
| 4 | Kaddaikadu Nithiyavalai Road | 2.11 | 4.90 |
| 5 | Kaddaukadu Vadiyadi Road | 5.70 | 2.75 |
| 6 | Varivaddan Road | 3.83 | 9.20 |
| 7 | Vadiyadi Vettalaikerny Road | 3.55 | 8.58 |
| Sub Total | | 20.51 | 43.76 |
| PPUC Area | | | |
| 1 | Beach Road | 0.60 | 3.00 |
| 2 | Ellai Veethy | 0.30 | 0.60 |
| 3 | Athi Kovil Road | 0.30 | 0.60 |
| 4 | Yakovalai Veethy | 0.30 | 0.60 |
| 5 | Udayar Veethy | 0.30 | 0.60 |
| 6 | Sothyseema Puliyady Veethy | 0.40 | 0.60 |
| Sub Total | | 2.20 | 6.00 |
| Grant Total | | 22.71 | 79.76 |

R / ACLG have been instructed to improve roads in Maruthankerny area and submit tender documents immediately. Request has been made to S / RRR and TAFREN to allocate a sum of Rs. 43.76 Million. Funds are also urgently required to provide transport for permanent housing materials.

2.03 Electricity

Immediate needs

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| No. of Sub Station | - | 01 |
| No. of Schemes | - | 07 |
| Length of Lines (LT) | - | 14.5 Km |
| (HT) | - | 0.9 Km |
| No. of Consumers affected | - | 510 |
| Repairs to service connection | - | Rs. 1.802 Million |
| Repairs LT Lines | - | Rs. 3.008 Million |
| Repairs HT Lines | - | Rs. 0.136 Million |
| Repairs to Sub Station | - | <u>Rs. 0.047 Million</u> |
| Total | | <u>Rs. 4.993 Million</u> |

Repair work on the HT and LT lines has been completed. Electricity supply has been restored to these areas.

2.04 Health

Point Pedro Base hospital is to be upgraded to General Hospital. Valvettithurai District Hospital will also be upgraded with increased staff

Temporary Health Care Units

DPDHS has requested the ICRC for fourteen temporary health units to provide medical services for the affected population. Temporary health care units are in place in Vadamarachy North and East.

The following health centers are currently in service with the help of ICRC (out of fourteen):

1. Sakkodai PPD
2. Suparmadam PPD
3. Thikam PPD
4. Polikandy VVT

Mobile medical clinics

Humedica, SLRC, Medico Do Mondose (Portuguese) have deployed mobile health clinics to the coastal areas. The temporary health units are an important source of health care service, where existing infrastructure has been badly damaged due to war and Tsunami.

2.05 Water Supply and Sanitation

Valvettithurai Water Supply Scheme (part of the National Water Supply and Drainage Board) had been severely damaged and the estimated cost of repairs is Rs. 28.90 Million. The District Rehabilitation Committee has agreed in principle for the implementation of a new water supply scheme on the grounds of the Valvettythurai and Point Pedro Urban Council. Estimated cost is Rs. 350.00 Million.

The National Water Supply and Drainage Board has emphasised the need for a sustainable sewage scheme to protect the existing ground water sources in Point Pedro. JBIC is planning to fund the water supply scheme and consultants are already on the field to finalize plans.

Drinking Water Supply to IDPs

| Pradeshiya Sabah / Urban Council | Department / Institution involved | Source of water supply | Mode of supply |
|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Point Pedro PS | Council, Humedica, National Water Supply-Vali East, Karaveddy Council | Vallipuram, VVT, Athulu Private wells | Tractor Bowsers 4, Lorry Bowsers 2 |
| Maruthankerny Sub Office | Council, National Water Supply, Poonakary PS, Kegalle Red Cross, Killinochchy Red Cross, Seva Lanka, Mesalai PS | Pallai Private wells | Lorry Bowsers 3, Tractor Bowsers 6 |
| Point Pedro UC | Council, Humedica, National Water Supply | UC open wells, Thikamunai | Lorry Bowsers |
| Valvettithurai UC | Council, UNICEF | Thondamanaru Water Scheme | Bowsers |

2.06 Education

| No | Name of Damaged Schools | Whether fully / Partly damaged | Whether relocation needed | Land identified | Land handed over | Repairs | Replacement cost (Million) | Funding Agency | Progress |
|----|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------|----------------------------|----------------|---|
| 1 | J/ Vettilaikerny RCTMS | F | Yes | Yes | Yes | - | 38.0 | GTZ | Plan available land handover to ZDE action taken by GTZ |
| 2 | J/ Kaddaikadu RCTMS | F | Yes | Yes | No | - | 41.0 | GTZ | Plan available land handover to ZDE action taken by GTZ |
| 3 | J/ Thalady RCTMS | F | Yes | Yes | Yes | - | 40.0 | GTZ | Plan available land handover to ZDE action taken by GTZ |
| 4 | J/ Mamunai GTMS | F | Yes | Yes | Yes | - | 39.0 | SDC | Plan available land handover to ZDE action taken by SDC |
| 5 | J/ Malalkadu RCTMS | F | Yes | Yes | Yes | - | 45.5 | GTZ | Land handover to ZDE with out plan. No decision |
| 6 | J/ Valvettithurai Sivaguru Vid. | F | Yes | No | No | - | 61.0 | UNICEF | No decision |
| 7 | J/ Kudathanai Karayoor RCTMS | P | Yes | Yes | Yes | - | 37.0 | Rotary Int. | Land handover to ZDE without plan |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|--------|--|
| 8 | J/ Vettalaikerny Paramesvara Vid. | P | Yes | Yes | Yes | - | 48.5 | GTZ | Plan available, land handover to ZDE |
| 9 | J/ Chempiyanpatu RCTMS | P | Yes | Yes | Yes | - | 39.0 | GTZ | Land handover to ZDE without plan |
| 10 | J/ Aliyavalai VVTMs | P | Yes | Yes | Yes | - | 83.0 | JICA | Land handover to ZDE without plan |
| 11 | J/ Kevil GTMS – New Building | P | No | - | - | Yes | | SDC | No decision |
| 12 | J/ Uduthurai MV | P | No | - | - | Yes | | SDC | No decision |
| 13 | J/ Valvettithurai RCTMS | P | Yes | No | No | - | 39.0 | UNICEF | No decision |
| 14 | J/ Kalady RCTMS | P | No | - | - | Yes | 2.5 | SDC | Survey conducted by database team, action taken by SDC |
| 15 | J/ Hartley College | P | No | - | - | Yes | 15.0 | SDC | Survey conducted by database team, action taken by SDC |
| 16 | J/ Methodist Girls College | P | No | - | - | Yes | 8.0 | SDC | Survey conducted by database team, action taken by SDC |
| Total | | | | | | | 536.5 | | |

3.0 HOUSING

Though various agencies have expressed willingness for the construction of permanent houses, construction activities have not commenced yet resulting in growing dissatisfaction among the people.

4.0 EDUCATION

On 2nd May, 2005, the Law Unit was inaugurated at the Jaffna University as a part of the Arts Faculty. It is expected that the unit will be upgraded to a full fledged faculty in the near future.

In order to develop preschool education in the Tsunami affected Vadammarachchi, it is targeted by the the Tsunami Coordinating Committee to complete construction of 50 preschools. 10 are being completed and work commenced on 18 schools.

The circular No. 2005 / 4 issued by the Ministry of Education to remedy the anomalies in the Teaching Service Establishment Report has only been available in Sinhala. Most Tamil teachers and staff are not in a position to comprehend the report. It should have been apparent to the government officials that teachers in the North and East have no knowledge of Sinhala and this could be perceived as a serious contravention of the Government Language Policy.

5.0 HEALTH

The mental unit at Manthikai hospital is functioning without any basic facilities. 60 million rupees was allocated under NECORD to construct a hostel for the mental patients but the proposal was dropped as 150 million rupees were required for the project. The medical officer in charge of the hospital has informed that numerous commitments to fund the project have been reneged.

300 Tuberculosis (TB) patients are identified in the district yearly. According to a TB specialist, the yearly increase in the number of patients is due to increased contact with foreigners from places such as India, where there is increased risk of exposure to TB.

6.0 AGRICULTURE

An unidentified fungus has been affecting onion plantations in the district with symptoms that include yellowing leaves and dried crops. It is expected that the spread of this fungus will lead to an impending loss of onion production in the District and result in sharp rise in onion prices.

7.0 FISHING

Federation of Fisheries Societies has requested the Government Agent to look into the feasibility of constructing bunds to protect the coastal areas.

Vadamarachchy North fishermen have severely condemned the action of the security forces who have reinstated a pass system for day to day fishing. This has put additional strains on Vadamarachchy North fishermen who have had to endure severe hardship due to the Tsunami.

Vadamarachchy area fishermen have demanded the construction of a lighthouse to aid deep sea fishing. Without a light house many fisherman find it difficult to navigate back to shore and may inadvertently stray off course.

8.0 TRANSPORT

The Pannai bridge which connects the Jaffna mainland with the islands is badly damaged. Passengers on most vehicles have to get down and walk across the bridge to reduce strains on the crumbling structure. The sorry state of the Pannai bridge is creating an additional source of obstruction for reconstruction work in the islands.

9.0 RESETTLEMENT, REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION

On 29th of May, TRO handed over houses to the ultra poor (people below the poverty line) and those severely affected by war under a project funded by NECORD.

| Village | Number of Houses |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Sooriyaweli | 60 |
| Meenachchipuram | 36 |
| Villuntri | 29 |
| Manthuvil | 130 |

Of the 42 ponds within the Jaffna Municipality, 32 ponds are to be rehabilitated by NORAD at a cost of Rs. 80 million. It is expected that this work will be completed before the end of the year.

Rapid development is envisaged in 15 villages in the Jaffna Municipal area with UN Funds. In the first stage, 10 villages will be developed before September, 2005. Rs. 2 million will be granted to each village (consisting of 1000 beneficiaries).

10.0 NORTH EAST IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE PROJECT (NEIAP)

Under NEIAP, 25 villages have been selected for community development. Village development and agricultural development are the themes for this project. Road rehabilitation, construction of drinking water wells, building of common halls and revolving loan scheme will also be undertaken.

11.0 TELECOMMUNICATION

It is more than a year since a good number of post offices have made their applications and paid the telephone connection fee but many still have not received service. Repeated reminders to the telecommunication authorities has yet to yield any results.

An inauguration ceremony for the construction of a Telecom Relaying Station at Chunnakam was held on 6th of May. Project Director Mrs. Kusum Jayatilaka announced that 4,500 new telephone connections could be installed from this station.

12.0 SECURITY CONCERNS

Superintendent of Police for Jaffna has taken stern action against police officers at Kodikamam for an unauthorized raiding of the LTTE political wing office without informing senior police officers and the SLMM.

Army soldier Abeysingha Gunawardena, aged 18 of Killai camp shot and killed Coporal Ranjith Jeyaweera Bandara, aged 21 before shooting himself. He was admitted to Palaly military hospital.

In Chulipuram (Thiruvadinalai) tension is brewing between the security forces and fishermen. The fishermen believe they will eventually be denied their basic rights to go fishing by the security forces. This is despite the fact that NGOs have supplied fishing gears and will force many fishermen to undertake odd jobs.

13.0 MINES

District Mine Action office, Secretariat, Jaffna has reported that there is a decline in the number of casualties due to mine incidents in the District.

| Year | Mine Casualties |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 2001 | 90 |
| 2002 | 70 |
| 2003 | 50 |
| 2004 | 20 |
| 2005 (upto May) | 7 |

On 27th of May, Vethanayagam Lenin from Navaly an employee of Halo Trust got injured while engaged in demining.

14.0 VISITS

ILO team comprising of J.M. Torence and M.H.S. Dayaratne visited the Council on 3rd May, 2005 and had a discussion focusing on the present situation in the district.

ADB Country Programming Mission consisting of Todakan Hayashi and Haritha Wickramasinghe had a meeting with the Council members on 6th May, 2005. Their visit was to get feedback for their strategic planning for 2006-2010. They were briefed on various issues including problems faced by the people, infrastructure and community development. It was stressed that the rehabilitation and reconstruction should be development oriented.

TAFREN organised a meeting at the Jaffna Secretariat on 20th May, 2005 to set up a mechanism to handle rapid income recovery programs. District committee members consisting of various stakeholders were appointed. The Council of NGOs, Jaffna District is also one of the members.

The President of the Council handed over a report on planning of implementation for the Tsunami disaster.

T. Thevananth
Hony. Secretary