



16th -31st December 2006

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1. Rehabilitation work expedited

Hindu dated 16th December 2006 reported that The Chennai based NGO Development Promotion Group has speeded up the tsunami rehabilitation work including construction of Permanent shelters in the district to complete in the next month. Its Chief Executive Officer R.Bhakther Solomon who inspected the work said that DPG had already handed over 205 houses. He said that another 195 houses in Vanavanmahadevi and 202 in Mapaillaioorani in Tuticorin district that were nearing completion would be handed over next month. The Nagapattinam district administration gave permission for constructing 59 more shelters in Kameshawaram village. He said that the work was being carried out at a total cost of Rs.18.50 crore financials assistance from various agencies abroad.

2. Development works taken up

The Hindu reported on the 18th December, 2006 that "As many as 406 development works have been taken up in rural areas under the Tamil Nadu Rural Employment Guarantee (TNREG) scheme in Nagapattinam district during 2006-07 and the Government has allowed Rs.66.62 crore towards wages for casual workers. The Collector Tenkasi S.Jawahar, after inaugurating desilting work in irrigation channel at Vizhundamavadi in Keezhaiyur block, said that the scheme ensured casual work for a person in each family a least for 100 days a year. He also said that about 1.44 lakh families had been issued identity cards assuring job for a person in each family in the rural development works such as laying of roads, desilting of channels, and ponds in all the 434 panchayats in the district.

3. 83 Panchayats selected for development works

Hindu dated 22nd December 2006 reported that Rural Development works will be taken up under the 'Anna Marumalarchi Thittam' in 83 village panchayats in Nagapattinam during the current year. Inaugurating training for the village panchayats presidents on implementing the works, Mr. Jawahar said that out of the 484 village panchayats as 83 that were starving for funds have been selected. Each will be provided Rs.20 lakh for taking up development works suggested by panchayats president and members. The work includes laying of cement roads, providing drinking water, streetlights, library and establishing cremation and burial grounds.

4. 255 Houses handed over to tsunami survivors

Indian Express dated 22nd December 2006 reported that As many as 225 houses, constructed by Mata Amritanandamayi Math, were handed over to tsunami survivors. The math had constructed over 2000 permanent shelters for the tsunami survivors in Tamil Nadu and planned to construct 500 more. Nagapattinam Collector Tenkasi S Jawahar presided over the functions and handed over the keys of the houses to the beneficiaries. He said that the administration would provide drinking water, road, electricity and other basic facilities. Nagai MLA V Marimuthu, Swami Abhayamirtha Chaitanya and others participated.

5. Tsunami Rehab work impress Federer

Indian Express dated 23rd December 2006 reported that It was not the usual racket and tennis court this time. But an unusual terrain, where life is sprouting after the devastation due to tsunami. The UNICEF goodwill Ambassador and leading tennis player in the world Roger Federer moved around with his characteristic ways as in a tennis court, sans his aggression at the State Government Special Children Home (Tsunami). Accompanied by his girlfriend Mirka the renowned tennis player witnessed the cultural events performed by the children orphaned due to tsunami. He spoke to them and shared snacks. The Collector Gagandeep Singh welcomed the tennis player and gave a power point presentation at the Collector Camp Office. Later the player visited the tsunami affected Thazhanguda and spoke to the children of the Anganwadi and the Government Middle School in the Hamlet. He also watched the puppet show performed by the students.

6. A Model in Reconstruction

The Indian Express dated December 27th 2006 reported that Cuddalore - Thalanguada "On Dec 1st US former President Bill Clinton described it as "model in tsunami reconstruction" and he would recommend it to other countries also. Thalanguada a small fishing hamlet with a population of about 1,500 in Cuddalore district is a fine example of human resilience and cooperation and coordination between government and non governmental agencies. Nearly 157 houses were totally or partially damaged by the tsunami. Two years hence the village is back

on its feet, with more than 150 houses reconstructed through the efforts of the State Government and agencies like the Aditya Birla run NGO Tanfac, World Vision and Salvation Army. The fishermen who had been living close to the sea all these years have now moved into their spanking new homes single storeyed one bed room houses of 1300 sq.ft each built in toilets. The neatly laid out streets with in these newly built colonies with quaint names like maligai theru (Jasmine), roja theru (Rose) the huge fountain in the central square surrounded by a gymnasium for youth, play area for the kids and a reading room all made up for a model township. More importantly these villagers have now been trained in disaster management. An advance warning wireless system for linking the village to the district administration head quarters has been set up at the cyclone shelter in the village as also public address system.

7. Silent Processions, candle light say it all

Hindu dated December 27th 2006 reported that Boats remained on the petal lined shores of coastal Tamil Nadu as people gathered to solemnly observe the second anniversary of tsunami. Silent processions, candle light vigils and laying of wreath at memorials built by which the people remembered December 26 2004. I Nagapattinam children, women offered floral tributes at the memorial in Keechankuppam and Akkaraipettai and the church town of Velankanni. Present along with them Collector Tenkasi S Jawahar and Minister U. Mathivanan, Minister for Dairy Development, MPs and MLAs, at exactly 9.17 am they placed wreaths at the pillar erected in memory of the victims at the collectorate. In Cuddalore Collector Gagandeep Singh Bedi inaugurated houses and Disaster information center at Samiyar Pettai.