

Shelter and Land allocation
Minutes of the Meeting

Date: 07.07.05

The meeting began with words of appreciation from the Collector to all the NGOs for their response to the rehabilitation at Nagapattinam. He stressed on the need to act together in a coordinated manner and requested the NGOs to start construction activities where the land has already been identified and aquired. The need for stocktaking on a more frequent basis to facilitate better coordination was also stated and the NGOs were requested to cooperate with the administration in facilitating this.

However, he also cautioned the NGOs on the need to carry the community with them during the planning and the construction activities by providing them with relevant information and through constant dialoguing with the community. With different styles and designs of construction, there was the risk of the comparisons and unfounded complaints which could be mitigated only through maintaining an open channel of communication with the community. The need to encourage in- situ construction was also reiterated.

This discussion was followed by a quick review of the progress and status of the construction activities started or planned by the various NGOs. Some of the agencies have started construction others are still in the process of beginning the work. The Collector once again stated his apprehension about the delay in initiating construction and suggested that the NGOs atleast start with construction in sites which have no problems either with the land or the selection of the beneficiary. The Collector also placed on record his appreciation of the work started at Thalampettai.

Field based progress could be better represented through visuals and the NGOs were requested to provide photographs of the construction activities on a weekly basis to the administration. This could be displayed at the Collectorate and would also go a long way in allaying the fears of the affected community, the public and the media on the slow progress of construction activities.

The escalation of costs due to land filling was once again discussed with the Collector assuring the NGOs that the Administration would step in to construct the remaining houses if the NGOs experience a shortfall in their funds. Alternatively, he also proposed help from the administration in explaining the escalation to the donors concerned should a need for the same arise.

The meeting came to a close by 8 pm.

**List of Organization who attended the meeting on “Shelter and Land allocation”
Date: 07.07.05**

Sl.	Organization	Name of the Person	Contact No.	Email.
1.	World Vision	V.S Suratha	9443712760	Suratha_samuel@wvi.org
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