

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

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Situation Report – April 2005

1.0 GENERAL SITUATION

Despite the fact three years have elapsed since the signing of the MOU, normalcy has not been felt by the people in any sector. The present Government that is in power for more than an year has not ventured seriously to recommence the stalled peace talk. The Tamil people at large feel that it is urgent and important that the Government and LTTE should honour the MOU and start peace talk to fund a viable solution to the long protracted ethnic problem. The need of the hour and the wish of the people who had suffered tremendously during the past two decades are for a genuine dialogue between the Government and LTTE which would pave the way for a workable and acceptable solution embodying the aspirations of the Tamil Population.

Not only the Tamil people of Sri Lanka but the whole nation was indeed terrified and dismayed at the manner in which Dharmaratnam Sivaram (Tharaki) the well known journalist was abducted at Bambalapitiya, at a busy hour, tortured and killed by unidentified miscreants. The very act of leaving the body near the parliament, a high security zone is a blatant challenge to democracy.

The array of assassinations of eminent journalists, Richard de Zoysa and continued to this day with the elimination of Mylvaganam Nimalarajan, the much respected Virakesari journalist G. Nadesan and now the reputed journalist and Editor, Tamil Net, Dharmaratnam Sivaraman reveals that the journalists cannot write exposing political awareness in favour of the minorities. His writings foretold the events likely to happen more so the great disturbance in the East.

The assassination of Sivaram is an eye- opener to the nation and the international community that the press freedom does not exist in this country and the citizens of the country do not enjoy freedom of speech and writing nay to move about freely.

In Delft at the Coordinating Committee Meeting held at the AGAs office it was decided that with the coordination of the Water Supply and Drainage Board to construct a huge dome to conserve rain water during the winter season for drinking purpose funded by NEIAP.

On 26th April, 2005 Thanthai Selva's 28th Death Anniversary Remembrance Day was observed with piety in the morning at the Thanthai Selva's remembrance pillar near the Fort. In the evening at the Veerasingam hall a memorial lecture was delivered by Professor S. Pathmanathan of the Peradenia University.

On 10th April, 2005 a branch of the "People's Leasing" was declared opened in Jaffna by Mr. T. Karunasena, Acting General Manager of the People's Bank.

Riding bicycle by children under 13 years considered to be a contributing factor for the increase in road accidents and the police has imposed a ban on riding bicycles by children under 13 years.

There were protest campaigns by Public Organisations and Civil Societies in various divisions in the District insisting that:

- 1. ISGA to be afforded to the LTTE and resumption of stalled peace talk.
- 2. Normalcy to be established in the Tamil areas.
- 3. Cessation of political killings.
- 4. Creation of a Joint Mechanism between the Government and LTTE to handle rehabilitation work of the Tsunami affected areas with funds provided by foreign agencies and others.

People of Jaffna celebrated the New Year "Parthipa" on 14th April, 2005 without much pomp and pageant.

2.0 TSUNAMI

2.01 The position in regard to construction of temporary shelters for the displaced people to move in is as follows

Stage I

÷.	ts	<u> </u>		Sh	elter		
Location for Temporary Shelter	Total Requirements	Land Identified for Construction	Imp. Agency	Commenced	Work in Progress	Completed	No of families moved
Thondamanaru	16	16	HUDEC	16	-	16	16
Athikovilady	132	132	Seva Lanka	132	102	30	30
Valvettithurai	75	75	White Pigeon (SCF Funding)	75	25	50	50
Polikandy West	51	51	HUDEC	34	12	22	22
Polikandy East	64	64	HUDEC	64	22	36	36
Senthankulam (Thikkam)	50	50	HUDEC	50	6	44	44
Sakkoddai	50	50	HUDEC	50	7	43	43
Inpuruddy	131	131	HUDEC	131	74	57	57
Viyaparimoolai	15	150	SCF	15	-	15	15
Erichchaman kovilady	41	41	HUDEC	41	6	35	35
Suppermadam	41	41	Seva Lanka	41	29	12	12

Koddady	35	35	Seva Lanka	35	35	-	-
Munai	80	80	SCF	80	-	80	80
Thumpalai East	105	105	HUDEC	105	-	105	105
Katkovalam	58	58	UNHCR	58	58	-	-
Punithanagar (Nagarkovil)	101	101	UNHCR	101	101	-	-
Manatkadu	232	232	UNHCR	232	ı	232	232
Potpathy	68	68	UNHCR	68	8	60	60
Total	1345	1345		1328	485	837	837

Stage II

No of additional shelters to be constructed for families staying with friends and relations.

 HUDEC
 109

 SC in Sri Lanka
 188

 LEADS
 102

 FORUT
 88

 Sewa Lanka
 27

 UNHCR
 11

2.02 Infrastructure

Roads for Immediate rehabilitation

Length of Roads (Km)	Total Estimated Cost (Million)	Progress
22.72	79.76	Estimate not approved

2.03 Damaged to Post offices

The postal authorities have reported that the following Sub – Post offices have been damaged.

No	Name of Sub – Post Offices	Present Position
1	Thalayady SPO	Temporarily functioning in another building w.e.f.
		19.01.2005
2	Chempiyanpattu SPO	Temporarily functioning at Chempiyanpattu North
		w.e.f. 19.01.2005
3	Chundikulam SPO	Temporarily fuctioning at Uduthurai Refugee camp
		w.e.f. 19.01.2005
4	Mulliyan SPO	Functioning w.e.f. 19.01.2005
5	Aliyawalai SPO	Functioning w.e.f. 19.01.2005

2.04 Temporary arrangements have been made to accommodate the students of the following damaged schools.

No	Name of Damaged Schools	Total Unit
1	J/ VAlvettithurai Sivaguru Vid.	19
2	J/ Aliyavalai CCTMS	17
3	J/ Vettilaikerny Parameswar Vid.	14
4	J/ Vettilaikarny RCTMS	03
5	J/ Kaddaikadu RCTMS	07
6	J/ manmunai GTMS	05
7	J/ Chempiyanpattu RCTMS	05
8	J/ Manatkadu RCTMS	12
9	J/ Thalayady RCTMS	09

2.05 According to a report of the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Jaffna, the immediate need to rehabilitate and develop fisheries sector in Jaffna District.

DS Division	17 ½ FRT		3 ½ Toner		Multi day Boat		Mathal		Stake Net		Total
	No	Value	No	Value	No	Value	No	Value	No	Value	
Maruthankerny	550	275	35	91	13	97.5	82	65.6	-	-	529.1
Point Pedro	1200	600	175	455	29	217.5	18	14.4	-	-	1286.9
Thellipalai	100	50	4	10.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	60.4
Sandilipay	100	50	12	31.2	5	37.5	-	-	150	30	148.7
Chankanai	100	50	13	33.8	2	15	-	-	125	25	123.8
Karainagar	100	50	2	5.2	1	7.5	-	-	125	25	87.7
Kayts	80	40	12	31.2	3	22.5	-	-	150	30	123.7
Velanai	40	20	5	13.0	-	-	-	-	250	50	83.0
Delft	20	10	10	26.0	2	15	-	-	-	-	51.0
Jaffna	40	20	50	130.0	10	75	-	-	135	27	252.0
Nallur	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	15	3	3.0
Chavakachchery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	10	10.0
Total	2330	1165	318	826.8	65	487.5	100	80	1000	200	2759.3

2.06 Norwegian People Aid, North Sea FAO and FTC are to effect repairs to 380 damaged boats.

No	Implementing Agency Location		Project Description (Units proposed to be repaired)	Cost (Estimated in Million)	Present Situation
1	Norwegian People	Thumpalai	380	11.1	133
	Aid	Polikandy			80
		Mathagal			39
		Maruthankerny			50
		Inparuddy			26
2	North Sea	VVT	-	1.0	-
3	FAO		3.5 Ton boats		
4	FTC	Karainagar	-	-	18
		Ellavalai			15
	Total	•	380		361

2.07 Industrial Sector

Private Business Affected.

No	Division	Type of Business	No. of Affected
1	Point Pedro	Trading Establishment	153
		Self Employment Enterprises	106
		Others	253
		512	
2	Maruthankerny	Trading Establishment	277
		277	

2.08 Emergency credit required for Enterprises in the Tsunami Affected Area.

DS Division		Number of Micro Enterprises	Value of the Damage (Rs)	Credit Requirement (Rs)	
Vadamarachchy No	orth	512	12,800,000.00	10,240,000.00	
(Point Pedro)					
Vadamarachchy I	East	277	28,145,000.00	8,540,000.00	
(Maruthankerny)					

2.09 Details of the Orphans are given below.

No	Division	Mother Less	Father Less	Both Parents Lost	Total
1	Maruthankerny	10	10	18	38
2	Nallur	2	ı	ı	2
3	Chavalachchery	-	ı	5	5
4	Karaveddy	-	-	3	3
5	Point Pedro	25	16	2	43
6	Jaffna	8	-	1	8
7	Thellipalai	-	3	1	3
8	Sandilipay	-	ı	1	1
Tota	al	45	29	29	103

2.10 Details of Damaged Cultural and Religious buildings are as follows

		Estimated Cost (LkR)						
No Division		Hindu Temple		Christian Church		Cultural Manram		
		No	Cost	No	Cost	No	Cost	
1	Vadamarachchy North	18	22,845,000.00	5	1,225,000.00	1	25,000.00	
2	Vadamarachchy East	33	12,220,000.00	8	3,600,000.00	4	950,000.00	
3	Thellipalai	1	6,650,000.00	-	-	-	-	
Total		52	41,715,000.00		4,825,000.00	5	975,000.00	

3.0 EDUCATION

Governments of Japan, Germany and INGOs have come formed to rehabilitate the undermentioned schools damaged by Tsunami.

- 1. Alliyavalai CCTMV
- 2. Chempiyanpattu RCTMS
- 3. Kaddaikaddu RCTMS
- 4. Mamunai GTMS
- 5. Manalkaddu RCTMS
- 6. Vettilaikerny Parameswara Vid.
- 7. Vettilaikerny RCTMS
- 8. Valvai RCTMS
- 9. Valvai Sivakuru School
- 10. Kudathanai RCTMS
- 11. Thalayady RCTMS

Students of the Union College, Thellipallai which is in the HSZ have made a request to the Security forces to accede to the following:

- 1. Allow students to attend to educational activities after school hours.
- 2. Allow old students, parents and well wishers to visit the school.
- 3. Not to check and harass students attending school.

Council of Non Governmental Organisations, Jaffna District is negotiating with the Commonwealth Education Fund to implement a programme for Grade 3 slow learners in the district.

4.0 ELECTRICITY

In Delft West GS Division, one month has lapsed after digging necessary pits to erect posts for the supply of electricity but no further action taken and the people are very much concerned that the chance of getting electricity is very remote.

5.0 TRANSPORT

The main roads as well as the rural roads are very much damaged and no action has been taken during the last 15 years or so to carry on effective repairs. Only patch up repairs are effected. After the recent rains the roads are impassable for vehicles as well as pedestrians. Apart from the pot holes, there are places where the roads look like ponds and pools and are death traps.

The government should take a serious note of the parlous situation of the roads in the peninsula and take action to do permanent repairs to the degrading road network.

A9 highway to Jaffna has also failed in many places. People are concerned about the Rs. 700 million investment on the above road.

6.0 FISHING

Fishermen of the GS Divisions of J/301, J/302 and J/303 have submitted a memorandum to the Divisional Secretary, Thenmarachchy that they be allowed 24 hrs fishing in Kerativu sea which is in the HSZ and to open the road leading to Kerativu through Thanankillappu. Lest they be given dry ration again.

Vadamarachchy fishermen who lost their fishing boats aftermath to Tsunami are to be given fibre boats by NGOs. Details are as follows:

1.	Human Rights Fund	-	30
2.	Oxfam	-	40
3.	UN Fund	-	250
4.	Caritas	-	200
5.	FORUT	-	33
6.	CARE	-	170

Already 188 boats have been supplied by certain other organisations and details are given below:

1.	Humedica	-	154
2.	GTZ	-	15
3.	Church of South India	-	09
4.	Action Faim	-	10

Ootru / ITDG, Action Faim, Movi mondo are issuing kattumarams to the affected fishermen.

7.0 SECURITY CONCERNS

On 2nd April, 2005 a student of the Uduvil Girls College when she got down from the bus and attempted to cross the road at Sangathanai, knocked down by a military motor bike. She was admitted to the Jaffna Teaching Hospital.

On 16th April, 2005 a soldier attached to the 7th Snigha Regiment at Nunavil who was refused leave to go to his native place for the New year got angry, fired and killed Major Sugeevaratnaweera and corporals P.J.G. Abeyasingha and A.M.L. Premakumara. He was arrested and produced at the Chavakachcheri Courts on 17th April, 2005.

On 17th April, 2005 a minibus returning from Muhamalai along the Point Pedro road knocked down a motor bike at the Irupalai Junction. Three Persons were travelling in the motorbike which came in a speed along Kondavil Irupalai road. Thevarajah Uthayakumar sustained severe injuries and succumbed to death. The other two came in the motor bike and a pedestrian also got injured and admitted to the Jaffna Teaching Hospital.

8.0 LAW AND ORDER

Weightage to law and order has become a past phenomenon. Burglary theft and disorderliness are rampant. Gangs of criminals and antisocial elements are operating with least regards for law and order. It is felt that anybody can do anything and escape from the eyes of the law enforcers.

There is a contention that unemployment contributes to this anti social act. Income generation opportunities are very much limited. However it is up to the law enforcers to be vigilant and arrest the present trend of lawlessness. Deterrent punishment should be meted to the offenders.

Jaffna magistrate has given necessary guidelines for orphanages in order to safeguard the interest for the orphans.

9.0 HEAVY RAIN

District Secretariat has allocated Rs. 9.7 million to pay compensation for damages to houses affected by heavy rain during latter part of last year. Payment of Rs. 20,000.00 for houses completely damaged and Rs. 10,000.00 to houses partially damaged.

10.0 MINE ACTION

On 12th April, 2005 in Sandilipay Mr. R. Raveenthiran attached to "HALO Trust" a demining agency while engaged in demining, a land mine exploded and sustained injuries in the face and in the body.

In Koilamanai in Kodigamam where the security forces have withdrawn from the camp, mines are found in abundance and the owners of lands and fields are not in a position to go back to their houses and clear the lands and fields.

11.0 <u>VISITS</u>

A delegation from the Municipality "Tromso", Norway called at the Council office on 4th April, 2005. They had discussions on varied subjects pertaining to the District and particularly the functions of the Jaffna Municipality and damages caused by Tsunami and the rehabilitation of the damaged areas.

Mr. Lionel Feranando and Mr. Y.K.H. de Silva of Disaster Relief Monitoring Unit, HRC paid a visit to the Council on 7th April, 2005. They were keen to know the extent of damages caused by Tsunami in the District and the relief work done in the affected areas.

T. Thevananth Hony. Secretary