



THE
HUMPTY DUMPTY INSTITUTE
PUTTING THE PIECES BACK TOGETHER

Post-Tsunami Assistance

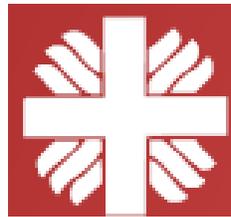
Investing in Health and Education in Eastern and Northern Sri Lanka

Monthly Partner Report September 2009

Partners:



ESCO



HUDEC-CARITAS

Funded by:



Compiled on: October, 2009

Monthly Partner Report for September 2009

The Humpty Dumpty Institute (HDI) began working on a Post Tsunami Assistance program in Sri Lanka from the 1st of September 2009, with primary funding from the Red Cross Society of the Republic of China (Taiwan). This project is also co-funded by the One Sri Lanka Foundation and People to People International.

HDI selected two local Sri Lankan NGO's to implement this program:

1. Eastern Self-reliant Community Awakening Organization (ESCO) – Batticaloa, Eastern Province
2. Human Development Centre (HUDEC) – Jaffna, Northern Province

The 26 December 2004 Tsunami, triggered by a massive earthquake off the coast of Sumatra was the worst natural disaster in living memory in Sri Lanka, and the challenge of the relief, recovery and reconstruction has remained enormous. Vulnerable groups, such as poor fishermen living close to the shore in simple houses and shelters, have borne the brunt of the negative impacts. Coastal communities are comparatively poor in the Sri Lankan context (between 25 and 33% of the affected population lives below the poverty line) and the tsunami compounded previously existing vulnerabilities. The Northeast region of Sri Lanka was hit the hardest. The tsunami of 26 December 2004 struck a relatively thin, but long coastal area stretching over 1,000 kilometers, or two thirds of the country's coastline. The damage stretched from Jaffna in the north down the entire eastern and southern coast, and covered the west coast as far north of Colombo as Chilaw damaging natural ecosystems and left behind widespread destruction.

In keeping with HDI's signature holistic approach to humanitarian and development work, we are not only addressing tsunami victims, we are also addressing medium-term development concerns in order to 'do no harm' to local and national capacities. HDI, together with its partners and local government officials, identified needs and local priorities of the communities in question. We have also been sensitive to existing and emerging differences between geographic areas, various groups, gender and individuals at every stage of the recovery process. The identification of needs and local priorities show different geographic regions, communities, groups as well as individuals were impacted differently, and therefore some were more disadvantaged than others. It is particularly important to consider that approximately two-thirds of the impact and reconstruction needs were in the conflict affected areas of the North East. As a result, HDI selected 14 villages in two areas of operation; 7 villages in the Jaffna District in the Northern Province and 7 additional villages in the Batticaloa District in the Eastern Province.

The families targeted in both districts were victims of the disaster and even though nearly 5 years have passed they are yet to re-build their once shattered lives. HDI together with our partners have initiated an integrated program addressing medical and public health, education, and water and sanitation issues. Medical Clinics are being set up for pre and post-natal medical care, to administer vaccinations against serious diseases, and to dispense general and specialized medical care for ear, nose and throat and eye disorders. An important aspect of psychological treatment for post tsunami stress disorders will also be part of the program. Education and training interventions will focus on basic hygiene and nutrition programs in addition to non-formal education programs that will address basic literacy concerns in the target population. These activities will be supported by facility rehabilitation and construction in select communities designed to reach the maximum number of beneficiaries. Water harvesting tanks, latrines, health clinics and libraries will be rehabilitated or built new. The two-year timeframe of the project allows for substantial advances to be made while building capacity for the sustainable maintenance of the project.



Base: 8027344A (000127) 3-01

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| <p>◆ Location of target villages in Batticaloa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kalkudah Paddiyadichenai Santively Palayadithona Thevapuram Minminithavely Akurana | <p>◆ Location of target villages in Jaffna</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Madduvil Ketpali Alvai Thumpalai Katkovalam Point Pedro Kachchai |
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BATTICALOA - EASTERN PROVINCE

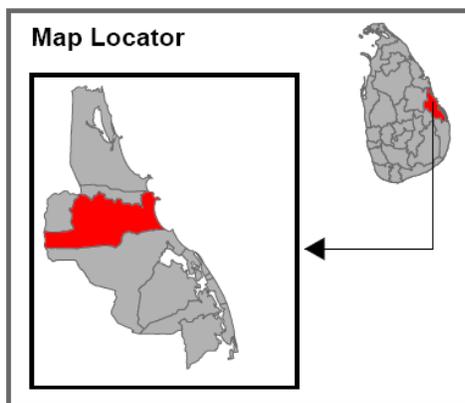
The Batticaloa District occupies the central part of the Eastern Province and covers a land area of approximately 2633 sq. km and internal waterway of 229 sq. km. The district accounts for 3.8% of the country's total land area. It consists of undulating plains and alluvial flats watered by rivers from the mountain zone of Uva and Central Provinces. Batticaloa District is singularly unfortunate in being the only Dry Zone District which does not have any perennial river flowing through it. The lagoon which traverses through the district extends 73.5 km from Verugal in the north to Batticaloa town and extends 35.2 km to the south. The major part of the population is concentrated in the narrow strip between the sea and the lagoon. The Western part of the lagoon is sparsely populated and 90% of the paddy lands are found in this area.

The annual rainfall varies from 864mm to 3081mm distribution of which has slight variation throughout the district. Most of the rain is being received during the months October to January and is both inter monsoon and North east Monsoon types. The temperature ranges from 25- 35 degrees C. A major portion of the population is engaged in farming while both Lagoon and coastal fishing is also important.

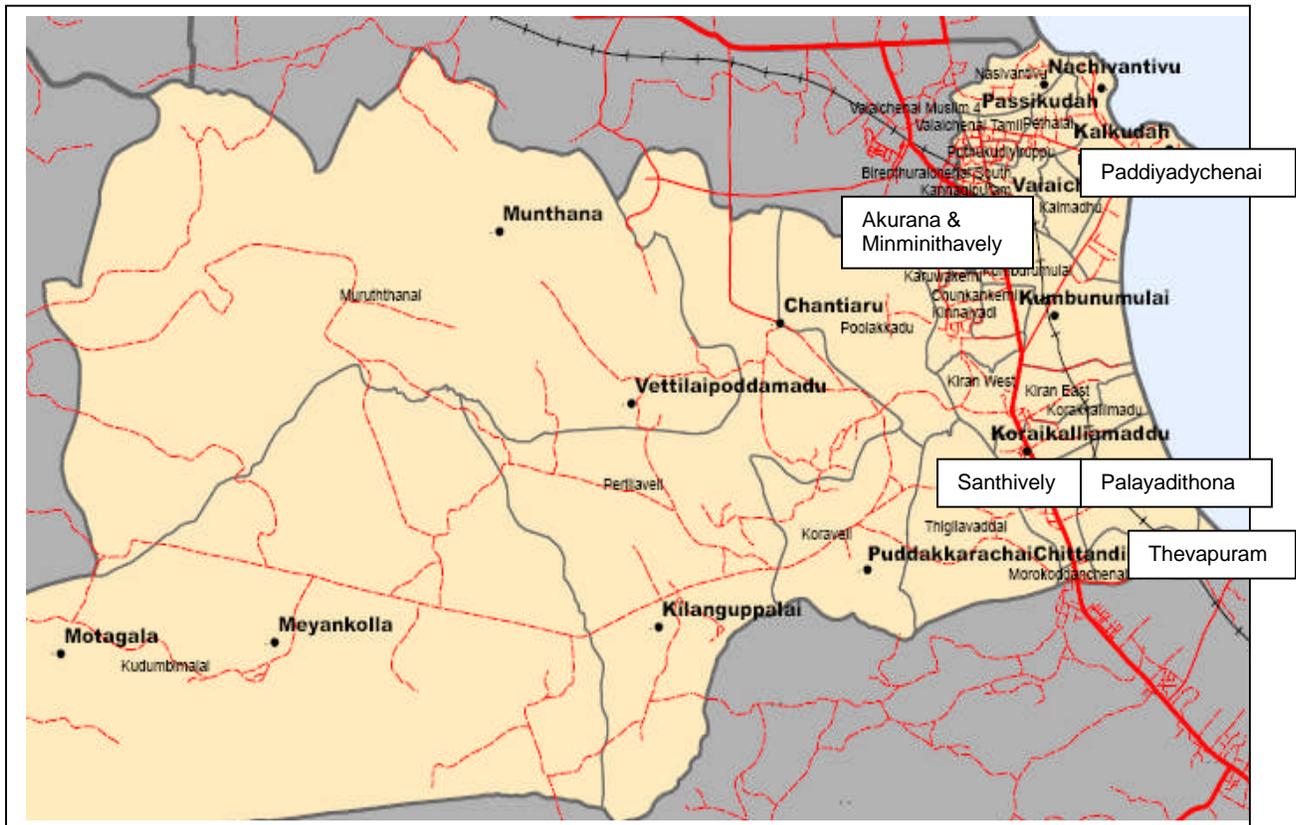
A Census of the Batticaloa district was not conducted in 2001 due to the political situation. According to the unofficial census, Batticaloa district had a population of 515,857. This is 0.7% growth on the previous census. The town population of Batticaloa district is 127,982 (24.8%) and the rural population is 387,875 (75.2%). In terms of age distribution, 39.9% of the population below 18 and 60.1% of those above 18. The ethnic distribution of the population is- Sinhalese 2397 (0.5%), Sri Lankan Tamils 381,841 (74.0%), Muslims 128,964 (25.0%), Other ethnicities 2512 (0.5). Current reports also indicate that there are approximately 47,000 displaced people in the Batticaloa district. Of there, 40,833 (85.9%) are displaced because of the ethnic conflict, and 6,725 (14.1%) people are displaced because of the Tsunami.

Approximately 255,000 people out of a total population of 536,000 (District statistical information 2003) in Batticaloa were affected by the tsunami. Nearly 3,000 people died and over 2,300 were injured, while 13,000-15,000 houses were completely destroyed and more than 5,000 houses damaged.

Both Tamils, who comprise 73.4% of the population in Batticaloa, and the Muslims who comprise 25.9% were severely affected. In addition there are small groups of Burghers, indigenous persons and seasonal Sinhala fishermen. Although much of Batticaloa district was under the LTTE control during the tsunami the entire district is now under government control.



Batticaloa District (pull out) and Koralaiattu South Division (marked in red).



Project areas in Koralaipattu South Division.

HDI's PARTNER IN BATTICALOA

Eastern Self-reliant Community Awakening Organization. (ESCO)

ESCO was established in 1998 by its two founders Mr. Spiritheyon who is their Programme Director and Ms. Kothai Ponnuthurai who takes care of Administration and Finance. ESCO has through the years become a credible and well respected organization in the Batticaloa and Trincomalee Districts. It has worked through many years of conflict and pioneered working with separated children supporting community-based support for them to avoid institutionalization. They have implemented projects for Unicef, Oxfam, Canadian CIDA, ACTED, ILO/IPEC, Amici dei Bambini (Italian donor) etc. and have an excellent rapport with the Government and local bodies. Their work is varied and wide and as a result is able to take on any work as they have developed a well trained staff. Their goal is to empower and develop vulnerable communities. They are a “boots on the ground” organization and are good at what they do. They have built up a good infrastructure and are competent to carry out their tasks.

ESCO also runs a safe house- *Snehatheepam*” It is a safe space to temporarily place children in crisis. ESCO has previously worked with children who have been ex-combatants and have worked with their families and schools to reintegrate them. These children were kept in the safe house before the families were willing to accept them back. Today the safe house has children who have been physically abused and ESCO provides psychosocial support and education while they are in the home.

In addition ESCO has built their own training center where they conduct their trainings as well as rent it out to other NGOs and organizations. The center has residential facilities and is run well by competent staff.

Together with ESCO, HDI will be implementing the following program components over the life of the project.

- **Training-** Pre and Post-natal training for pregnant mothers
- **Health care practices-** Teaching good health care habits and good hygiene.
- **Nutrition Training-** awareness on balanced meals, growing healthy food and nutritional facts.
- **Medical Clinics-** Mobile medical clinics at the villages including general medicine, specialized ear, nose and throat treatment, vaccinations etc.
- **Public awareness campaigns-** Breast feeding, cleanliness, reduction of infections, clean water, environmental sanitation etc.
- **Child friendly spaces-** Opportunities for physical development, identification of special needs children, behavioural patterns etc.
- **Vaccinations-** for diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, TB, Polio, measles and Rubella.
- **Construction of rain water harvesting systems and drinking water wells**
- **Construction of 2 Health Clinics**
- **Expansion of Libraries**
- **Renovation of Children's Park**
- **Provision of Boat and boat engine to cross river**
- **Non formal Education**

During the month of September, the following progress has been registered.

Mobile Medical Clinic: This was conducted in Akurana and Minminithevely on 30 September 2009 from 09.30 a.m. to 02.00 p.m. 73 persons attended. They consulted the doctor, received drugs and some of them were referred to the Batticaloa Teaching Hospital(BTH) for further treatment; for instance, Sinnanathamby Samithamby (44 years) was diagnosed with TB and was referred to the BTH. The Medical Officer also visited the home of this patient and examined the family members and advised them to go through further examinations at the BTH. People had complaints of fever, diarrhea and rash during the medical examinations. The clinic team consisted of a Medical Officer, Nursing Officer/dispenser attached to the Batticaloa Teaching Hospital. The people in the area were very happy and expressed their gratitude for having conducted a mobile clinic in their villages. They also requested to conduct this type of clinics in their villages at least once a month.

Construction of Health Clinic Centre: A plot of land in the middle of the Minminithevely village has been selected in consultation with the people in the area and the approval was received from the Divisional Secretariat to construct the proposed Health Clinic Centre. Foundation stone will be laid on 7th of October 2009 at 09.00 a.m.

Non-formal Education: Teachers have been selected for the non-formal education program. Children as well as adults will participate in this as neither of them have had any education.

Construction of Common Wells: Work has been initiated to construct two common wells in Minminithevely. Pits have been dug and building work will start on the 7th of October 2009. The digging of the well was done by the villagers themselves. There has been excellent participation by the villagers in these projects.



Planning meeting with the beneficiaries



The well has been dug by the beneficiaries



Water is found!

JAFFNA

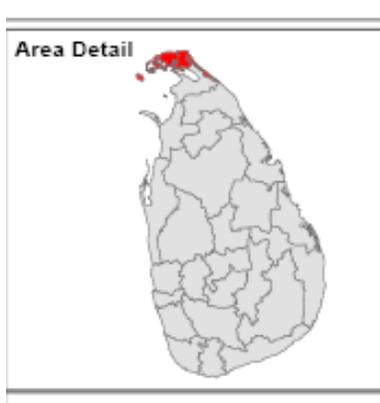
The Jaffna District is the Northern end of the Northern Province. It consists of the peninsula and seven inhabited islands. North, East and West boundaries of the District are the Indian Ocean, South is the Jaffna Lagoon and Killinochchi district. The total land area including inland waters is 1025 sq Km. The land in Jaffna could be characterized as flat with less than 5% slope. There are over 631 ponds and 2433 ditches scattered all over the District with connected channels to conserve rain water. The peninsula is actually almost an island; only the narrow causeway known as Elephant Pass (elephants once waded across the shallow lagoon here connecting Jaffna with the rest of Sri Lanka). Jaffna is low lying; much of it covered by shallow lagoons, and has a number of interesting islands dotted offshore. The flat Jaffna Peninsula is made of limestone, unlike most other parts of Sri Lanka. The porous stone absorbs the rain very quickly and conveys it to the water table. This forms a specifically lighter layer, "swimming," as it were, on the salt water of the Indian Ocean that permeates the rock on all sides up to sea level. Open tanks are not practicable here, and fresh water has to be obtained from wells.

Jaffna district's population was 650,720 in 2009. It is one of the most densely populated districts of Sri Lanka, second only to Colombo. The population of the district, like the rest of the North and East has been heavily affected by the civil war. Thousands have immigrated to the West and over 100,000 are still displaced and waiting to return home.

The Jaffna District is predominantly an agricultural area. Crops such as red onions, chilies, potatoes, tobacco, vegetables, banana and grapes cultivated for commercial purposes. Other crops such as paddy, pulses, coconut cultivation are at subsistence levels. A large population is engaged in agriculture and livestock in the District. The Jaffna district falls under dry zone. Peak rainfall is during the months of October to December during the North east Monsoon and scattered during April and May.

As a result of the long tradition of education, the Jaffna District has had one of the highest literacy rates in Sri Lanka. In the early days of nationhood, it was in fact the highest, recording 90.7% literacy. Due to the protracted conflict and consequent displacements, however, the education sector suffered severe setbacks. Many schools are still in the high security zone which is inaccessible. The lack of adequate financial resources, inadequate infrastructure, acute shortage of skilled manpower resources and teaching aids and equipment are major constraints.

During the 2004 Tsunami, a total of 2,640 people died in the Jaffna district and 1,647 were injured. 1,240 reported missing and 41,000 were initially displaced. Point Pedro was the most affected which is densely populated.



The two selected areas for the development of pre-schools—Point Pedro (6,695 families) and Chavakachcheri—(153 families) were deeply affected by the tsunami. The goal of this component of the project is to facilitate pre-school education access to Tsunami affected poor children in the Jaffna district by providing Play materials and Educational Equipment.

We will be implementing several components during this project:

- **Construction of Toilets in 16 pre-schools**
- **Provision of play materials to 17 pre-schools**
- **Provision of Educational material to 33 pre-schools**

Location	Toilet	Play materials	Educational Materials
Point Pedro	07	11	23
Chavakachcheri	08	05	09
Chankanai	01	01	01
Total	16	17	33

During the month of September, HUDEC made preliminary field visits to the pre-schools for assessment. The following progress was made:

Preliminary arrangement

Field visits were made to the selected 33 pre-schools and the details of each pre-school were collected. Photographs also were taken of 21 pre-schools to which toilets and play-materials will be provided. Separate files are maintained for each pre-school along with the following documents:

1. Request letter from the pre schools management
2. Pre school Name, address, Register No
3. Ownership of the Land
4. Number of students
5. Number of Teachers
6. Payment system of the salary for the teachers
7. The society which maintains the Pre school
8. PHI (Public Health Inspector) Approval letter to construct toilets

Quotation

1. Quotation were called for Play materials on 20/09/2009
2. Quotation were finalized on 22/09/2009
3. Orders placed for the play materials 23/09/2009
4. The sample of each play materials were evaluated on 30/09/2009
5. Quotations were called for the construction of toilets on 29/09/2009
6. Order placed for the construction of Toilet materials on 30/09/2009

Some of the Pre-schools



Kalaimakal Pre-school, Point Pedro



Kalaivani Pre-School, Chavakachcheri



Kalaimakal Pre-school, Chavakachcheri



Somaskantha Pre-school, Chavakachcheri



Puthumalar Pre-school, Point Pedro



Mathumai Pre-School, Chavakachcheri

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The Humpty Dumpty Institute- Sri Lanka
Colombo, October 2009