

Ampara District

Affected Divisional Secretary Divisions: (11)

Affected People

- Number of affected families : 38,000
- Total number of affected persons: 193,000
- Total number of deaths : 10,436
- Number of welfare camps at initial stage: 67

Damages to Different Sectors

Sector	Nature of the Damage	Estimated Cost (Rs. mn)
Road	All roads in the affected area have been severely damaged (RDA & RDD)	548.0
Telecommunication		10.0
Water supply		66.0
Electricity		172.0
Tourism		300.0
Agriculture	Agricultural lands along the coast have been damaged by salt water.	82.0
Irrigation		9.0
Education	40 schools damaged.	368.0
Administration (Public Institutions)	10 DS office buildings have been affected, 02 Pradeshiya Shaba buildings were damaged	145.0
Health	02 district hospitals, 01 rural hospital, 01 peripheral unit, and 03 dispensaries were damaged.	414.0
Fisheries	Fishing villages, fishing boats and gears were damaged.	1,456.0
Housing	Total number of houses damaged: 27,562 fully damaged : 17,117 partially damaged : 10,445	40,875.0
Other		742.0
Total		45,187.0

Actions Taken

- Immediate needs of the affected people were attended by Kachcheri, Divisional Secretariats, Ministries, WFP and NGOs.
- Temporary shelters have been given in schools, public buildings and some other places with minimum basic facilities.
- Temporary hospitals have been set up in places where hospitals destroyed.
- 6,500 temporary houses have been constructed.
- Rs. 5000 and Rs. 2500 were given to each affected family. (Livelihood allowance and grant to purchase kitchen utensils).
- Food ration was given to affected families by WFP.
- 25 state owned land parcels have been identified for the construction of permanent houses.
- MOUs were signed with NGOs to construct 5,172 permanent houses in 18 villages.
- Initial works have commenced to purchase lands from private owners.

Confronted Problems and Issues

- Proper targeting of affected people for relief activities.
- Difficulty in finding lands to reside 11,000 families in Kalmunai MC area and inadequate staff positions of the UDA.
- Some people, particularly fishermen are reluctant to reside in new settlements.
- Different opinions between politicians regarding resettlement activities.
- Lack of skilled manpower for re-building infrastructure.
- People do not like to change their traditional living style.
- Some people do not like to leave the camps as they are given food and other essentials freely.

Challenges Ahead

- Limitations in the construction field in building a large number of houses simultaneously.
- Providing necessary facilities to fishermen and small industrialists.
- Repair damaged highways and bridges within a short period of time.

*Post Tsunami Recovery Process
District Experience and Challenges Ahead*

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<i>Housing</i>	<i>Total number of houses</i>	<i>40,875.0</i>

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<i>Total</i>		<i>45,187.0</i>

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Challenges Ahead

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EXPERIENCE AND CHALLENGES AHEAD
AMPARA DISTRICT

Areas 01 km from seashore in 11 divisional secretariat divisions in Ampara District have been badly affected by Tsunami Tidal Wave occurred on 26.12.2004 between 08.50 a.m. to 09.00 a.m.

All basic facilities including lives such as houses, small industries, fishing education health, electricity, roads, water supply etc. have been completely damaged. The same day from 09.00 a.m. to the end of the next day the people moved from the coastal area to higher area in west of Ampara District.

Particularly, coastal area people moved as follows:

- i. From Kalmunai Tamil division to Chavalakkadaei and Central Camp areas
- ii. From Kalmunai Muslim, Sainthamaruthu, Karaitheevu and Ninthavur divisions to Sammanthurai and Amparai divisions.
- iii. From Addalaichchai to Alankulam area
- iv. From Akkaraipattu to Pallikkudyuruppu and Issanganicheemai areas
- v. From Alayadiwembu and Thirukkivil to Sagmam, Mandane, Gannahipuram and Akkaraipattu areas.
- vi. From Pottuvil and Panama area in the division.

During this period it is reported that about 193,000 displaced people from unaffected area rendered immediate helps to the affected. Following this, sufficient food items and basic needs were distributed to the affected people through World Food Programme, Kachcheri Ampara, Sectoral Ministries, well wishers and donors.

It was reported about 7000 people have died, Rs 15,000 was granted as funeral expenses. On the basis of latest data about 27,572 houses were damaged. Of these houses about 17,117 fully damaged and 10,445 partly damaged.

Collapse bridges and causeways along the main roads are vast inconvenience caused by this Tsunami tidal wave. Unworthy roads had to be used through Sagamam because causeways along the road from Akkaraipattu to Thirukkivil and bridge along the road from Thirukkivil to Komari have been damaged. Siyambalanduwa road was made use of to go to Pottuvil and Panama areas. Food were taken Helicopter to Panama from Pottuvil cause to the damage to Arugabay Bridge.

Fears and panic prevailed among the people for 04 days. After that people returned to their own areas. This people were settled in Schools, Public buildings and Welfare Centres. Most of them preferred to stay in their relatives or friends houses. Divisional Secretaries and relevant officials arrange necessary facilities to this people. The above officials rendered their services with utmost devotion. Government and Non Government Organisations have been taking part to construct temporary shelters to the affected people in schools, public buildings and other places. Approximately 15000 temporary houses are needed but 6500 temporary houses have been constructed so far. Rest of the houses are under construction. There are difficulties to identify lands even to construct temporary houses for about 11000 families in Kalmunai municipal council area. This problem has been resolved little by little among the difficulties. Necessary basic facilities are given this affected people living in temporary houses.

In addition, the Government through Ministry of Social Service gives Rs. 2500.00 and Ministry of Finance Rs. 5000.00 to each family. Moreover World Food Programme grants 400g. Rice or wheat flour, 60g. Dhal, 20g. Sugar, 20g. Cooking Oil and Rs. 200.00 in cash. The food items are provided through coupon system.

As there are no state lands in Kalmunai (TD), Kalmunai (MD), Sainthamaruthi, Karaitheevu and Ninthavur to construct permanent houses, private land have to be purchased for this purpose, paddy field land and high land have been identified and arrangements have been taken to purchase this lands. Initial works have been completed to purchase land in Islamabath in Kalmunai (MD).

On the other hand state land available in Addlalaichenai, Akkaraipattu, Alayadiwemby, Thirukkivil, Pottuvil and Lahugala DSS to construct permanent houses 25 places have been identified in this area and initial works are completed. People are reluctant to live in some identified areas such as Sarodayapuram in Pottuvil because it was these placed had been deserted by this people for war.

Initial works have begun to construct permanent houses. 08 Non Government Organisations and well-wishers signed Memorandum of Understanding up to 04. 04. 2005 to construct 5172 permanent houses in 18 villages. It should be mentioned that activities are getting delayed due to the lack of UDA staff.

Sectoral Departments have lost many properties as follows.

Name of the Building/Facilities/Infrastructure Sector and DS Division Wise	Approximate cost of the Reconstruct: of the Building/ Facilities/Infrastructure (Rs Mn)
Agriculture	28.23
Electricity	172.38
Health	424.50
Road (RDA)	483.60
Road (RDD)	62.18
Irrigation (P/DDI)	42.00
Irrigation (C/DDI)	33.11
Irrigation (C/DDI)	33.11
Water Supply	66.00
Postal	9.95
Education	118.64
Education	240.33
Fisheries	153.19
Telecom	Report not received
Wildlife	Report not received
DS Division	
Addalaichenai	14.50
Akkaraipattu	3.45
Alayadewembu	7.30
Kalmunai (MD)	505.00
Kalmunai (TD)	45.00
Karaitheevu	56.90
Ninthavur	7.50
Sainthamaruthu	1.34
Thirukkovil	1.70
Pottuvil	12.00

Name of the Building/Facilities/Infrastructure Sector and DS Division Wise	Approximate cost of the Reconstruct: of the Building/ Facilities/Infrastructure (Rs Mn)
Pradeshiya Saba	
Akkaraipattu	62.71
Thirukkovil	40.74
Total	2604.58

Damages caused to water supply, health, electricity sectors came to normal because of respective department affords. Some of the affected students are going to temporary constructed schools and others are going to evening classes conducted in nearest schools. Temporary hospitals have set up in place of totally destroyed hospitals.

Challenges

- To get state lands to construct permanent houses to Kalmunai (TD), Kalmunai (MD), Sainthamaruthu, Karaitheevu and Ninthavur DSS for about 12000 families coming under buffer zone.
- Delays in initialization of work.
- Unwillingness of affected people to live in new areas or places.
- People do not like flats.
- Fisherman fear they may loose their employment if they are relocated far away from sea.
- Differences of opinions between the Politicians.
- Frustration and hatred among the affected people.
- Mentality of the people that the Government must construct houses as big as their old ones.
- Due to limited resources that can't be utilized do all houses at the same time
- Continuous increase in prices of goods
- Several millions of rupees are needed to recover infrastructure facilities and lack of human resources.
- Giving necessary facilities to the affected fisherman to start the normal life and helping small industries.
- Repair of the damaged high ways and bridges.
- Difficulties in getting the accurate information because the unaffected people are also tend to get relief.

- Some affected people are not showing interest to relocate because they think that they can get relief they stay in temporary shelters.