

Batticaloa District

Affected Divisional Secretary Divisions

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| (1) Manmunai North | (6) Eravur Pattu |
| (2) Kattankudy | (7) Koralai Pattu |
| (3) Manmunai Pattu | (8) Koralai Pattu Central |
| (4) Manmunai South and Eruvil Pattu | (9) Koralai Pattu North. |
| (5) Eravur Town | |

Affected People

- Total number of affected persons: 255,000
- Total number of deaths and missing: 3,177

Damages to Different Sectors

Sector	Nature of the Damage	Estimated Cost (Rs. mn)
Road	All roads in the affected area have been severely damaged	558.3
Telecommunication		2.1
Water supply	All wells in the affected area were polluted and no way to get purified water in this area	1800.0
Electricity		97.6
Agriculture	Agricultural lands along the coastal belt have been damaged by salt water. (Damages to Department of Agrarian Services, Department of Agriculture and Cashew Corporation)	13.0
Education	12 schools fully damaged and 25 schools partially damaged. 410 students and 10 teachers were among died persons.	410.8
Health	02 district hospitals, 01 rural hospital, 01 peripheral units, and 03 dispensaries were damaged	168.0
Fisheries	Fishing villages, fishing boats and gears were damaged. .	722.7
Housing	Total Number of houses damaged:17,608 (fully damaged : 12,232 partially damaged : 5376)	6700.0
Total		10,472.5

Actions Taken

- Nearly 21,000 people were given temporary shelters in welfare camps.
- Sectoral Task Forces have been established to coordinate reconstruction activities.
- 1,500 temporary houses have been constructed by INGOs.
- 27 sites have been identified for housing schemes.

Confronted Problems and Issues

- Providing housing facilities to affected people.
- Lagoons and coastal areas were not cleaned yet and it impedes fishing activities.
- Most NGOs work in the fisheries sector and the other sectors such as agriculture and livestock have been neglected.
- No adequate classroom accommodation in devastated schools and poor attendance of students.
- Control of spreading of communicable diseases and preventive measures has to be taken in order to protect from them.
- Provision of infrastructure facilities such as access roads, electricity and water supply with limited funds.
- Agricultural lands along the coast have been abandoned by cultivators due to the pollution of soil.
- Inadequate human resources to conduct counseling for psychologically affected people.

Challenges Ahead

- Providing permanent shelter-selection of suitable locations, supply of building materials, preparation of appropriate structural plans and providing infrastructure.
- Construction of tsunami prevention structures-selection of materials, structural plans, estimating, etc.
- Improvement of soil conditions of affected lands for cultivation.

*Post Tsunami Recovery Process
District Experience and Challenges Ahead*

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Challenges Ahead

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- *Improvement of soil conditions of affected lands for cultivation.*

EXPERIENCE AND THE CHALLENGES AHEAD
BATTICALOA DISTRICT

The district of Batticaloa occupies the central part of the Eastern Province. It covers the land area of approximately 2633.1 square Km and internal waterway of 299 square Km. The district accounts for 3.0% of the countries total land area. The District is bounded by:

North : Verugal Aru & Trincomalee District
East : Bay of Bengal [Sea]
South & South West : Apmarai District
West & North West: Polonnaruwa District

Administrative divisions

The District is divided into 14 administrative Divisions [Divisional Secretariat Divisions]

They are:-

Manmunai North	Eravur Town
Kattankudy	Eravur Pattu
Manmunai Pattu	Koralai Pattu South
Manmunai South and Eruvil Pattu	Koralai Pattu
Porathivu Pattu	Koralai Pattu Central
Manmunai South West	Koralai Pattu West
Manmunai West	Koralai Pattu North

Experience

Affected Administrative Divisions:

Manmunai North
Kattankudy
Manmunai Pattu
Eravur Town
Eravur Pattu
Koralai Pattu
Koralai Pattu Central
Manmunai South & Eravur Pattu
Koralai Pattu North

Live and Livelihood

Live

The District has a population of 545,477 [Estimated]. Density of population is 226 persons per square Km in Batticaloa District. A high density of population exists at Kattankudy DS Division and lowest density of population is Krolaipattu North DS Division.

The following details indicate the death, injury and missing of people by the Tsunami.

Death	2,837
Injured	2,375
Missing	340

Livelihood

Major portion of the population is engaged in Agriculture while the fishing occupies the second place in the economy of the district. Other occupations are Industrial activities, Business and Employment in Government, corporation and private Establishments. The District has about 30,000 Agriculture families and about 16,300 fishing families.

The following details indicates the damages in the sector of Livelihood by the Tsunami.

Small Scale

Beetle, Goldsmith and home gardening, fishing, carpentry, poultry, cow and goat rearing

Large Scale

Coconut cultivation, Palmyra Cultivation, cashew Cultivation Paddy Cultivation and Fishing

Government Departments

Health

A Teaching Hospital with necessary facilities and bed strength is at Batticaloa Town. Five private Hospitals [at town] although small in size serve the public satisfactorily. In the rural areas Peripheral unit, District Hospitals and Dispensaries are functioning. But unfortunately in some places due to the present situation medical centres are not function.

Details of damaged hospitals

District hospital – Kattankudy
District hospital – Kallar

Rural hospital – Palameenmadu
Peripheral unit – Vaharai
Central dispensary – Navalady
Central dispensary – and maternity home - Thuraineelavanai
Central dispensary – Palamunai

Total Damages by the Tsunami – Rs. 168 mn.

Education

There are 321 schools in the district in which a total no of 117,794 students are enrolled with 3989 Teachers in all. The Eastern University with the Faculties of Agriculture, Science, Commerce and Arts at Vantharumoolai is the Higher Educational Centre. There is training college at Thalandudha for training of teachers in the District. The Technical College at Manchanthoduwai and Eastern Technical Institute at Batticaloa town Provide technological Trainings.

Total damages

Schools (Partially)	- 25	(Approximate value – Rs. 259.6 mn.
Schools (Fully)	- 12	(Approximate value – Rs. 151.2 mn.
	Total	Rs. 410.8 mn.
Students Death	- 410	
Teachers Death	- 10	

Agriculture

The district has about 58,374 hectares of paddy lands. Between the normal seasons Maha and Yala an inter seasonal cultivation called late Maha [From February to May] is cultivated by the farmers. In some areas the farmers cultivate it with the support of Minor irrigation tanks. Unnichai, Vahaneri, Rugam, Navagiri, Thupankerney, Kittulwewa, Kaddumurivu and Kadukkamunai are some of the important major tanks that feed the paddy lands of the District along with many other minor tanks. Again about 49,339 Hectares of highland have been cultivated wide-spread throughout the District. The coastal Villages lying from Kurukklmadam at Manmunai South & Eruvil pattu DS Division are popular for Onion, Chilly, Betel and Vegetable cultivations.

- Total damage to department of agrarian development - Rs. 11.4 mn.
- Total damage to department of agriculture - Rs. 0.8 mn.

Since long cashew nuts are the most important cash crops for the District. Due to the Tsunami most of the cashew plants were affected. Among many difficulties Cashew Co-operation is trying hard to bring this cultivation to its earliest prosperous stage.

Total damage of Cashew Corporation – 0.7 mn.

Fishing

Fishing is second only the paddy cultivation. The encroachment of the sea into the lagoon thus forming a good fishing environment is estimated as 56km. The long sea coast with suitable bays at long intervals coupled with their rivers and the estuaries, the miles long lagoon and the innumerable tanks and water holes provide ample scope for this industry.

Total damages in fishing sector by the Tsunami – Rs. 722.7 mn.

Houses

Partially damaged	-	5,376
Fully damaged	-	12,232

Infrastructure

Road

Total damages – Rs. 558.3 mn.

Electricity

Total damages – Rs. 97.6 mn.

Telecommunication

Total damages – Rs. 2 mn.

Challenges

Short term

- Providing S.P.S. to IDPS
- Livelihood
- Providing education for IDPS
- Relief for minor psychological disorders {Counseling}
- Controlling and protection communicable diseases
- Reconstructing immediate infrastructure facilities

Long term

- Permanent shelter
- Construction of prevention structures from Tsunami
- Soil improvement to agriculture
- Systematic cashew plantation
- Infrastructure
- Psychological treatment

Housing

Short term

- Providing semi permanent structure to IDPS
- Selection of location
- Coordination among the NGOS & Government
- Finding construction materials & labor
- Satisfy peoples third world attitude
- Standardization of IDP's camps

Livelihood

- Since all the essential food items are being supplied motivating a labor and get him out to work has been found as a difficult task.
- Since the lagoon and costal areas where usually fishing happens has not been cleaned yet hence it impedes the process of promoting fishing activities.
- Only the area of fishing is being catered by most of the NGOS the other areas. Like agriculture and animals husbanding has not been feed yet hence a big gab mentally as well as physically has been observed.

Education

- Most of the students have not been in school in months hence motivating them to go to school.
- Enough room for accommodation of students of devastated schools
- Improve the Parent's attitude.
- Facing public exam when living in temporary shelters like tents

Protection and psychosocial activities

- Excessive alcoholic consumption
- Abuse of child hood
- Low capacity in psychosocial activities

Controlling and protection communicable deceased

- Proper drainage
- Garage disposal
- Frequent visit of doctors to the camp
- Separation of patients who were affected by the communicable deceases.

Reconstructing immediate infrastructure facilities

- Providing infrastructure facilities to people who are living in camps.
- Access roads
- Providing electricity

- Providing water and sanitation

Long term challenges

Permanent shelter

- Selection of location
- Structural plans
- Providing the facilities same as before Tsunami (e.g. Community building, worship places, crematories.)
- Shortage of materials

Construction of prevention structures from Tsunami

- Selection of raw materials
- Structural plans
- Estimating and budgeting
- Concern the proper access for fishing

Soil improvement to agriculture

- No proper technicians
- Since the soil has not improved yet, the farmers cannot be able to cultivate.
- The affected area which use to agriculture, now abounded by cultivators.

Systematic cashew plantation

- Planning for cashew plantation
- Improve the soil to accommodate cashew plantation.

Infrastructure

- Building sustainable roads and bridges.
- Shortage of materials.
- Providing water supply facilities.

Psychological treatment

- Conduct the counseling to psychologically affected people.
- Selection of resource persons.

