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1. Call for Providing Remunerative price for Paddy

On the 4th August 2006 *The Hindu* Nagapattinam reported that : Thiru K.G. Krishnamoorthy, Vice President of the Thanjavur District farmers association said that his association has urged Tamil Nadu Government to give remunerative price for paddy and fix the paddy price at Rs.1000 per quintal, as the centres hiking of Rs.10 per quintal of paddy from Rs.600 to Rs.610 for fine variety and Rs.570 to Rs.580 for coarse variety was of no use as the Farmers in the Cauvery Delta Region as now facing shortage of agriculture workers as many of them migrated to towns and cities. The wages for agricultural labourers have gone up to Rs.130 per day as against recommendation of Rs.90 per day.

2. Workshop on Disaster Preparedness in Agriculture

On the 5th August 2006 *Indian Express* Nagapattinam reported that, A two day National Workshop on Disaster preparedness in Agriculture was organised by the NCRC and Concern Worldwide. Mr.Vinod Chandra Menon – Member National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) said that the death toll due to disasters in countries like the US was far less mainly due to the availability of effective infrastructure such as early warning system, communication and dissemination of information, hazard mitigation and capacity building. He also explained the role of NDMA as the apex body for disaster management, with Prime Minister as its Chairman. Menon who had served as the United Nations as Disaster Management Expert added that agriculture bore the burnt during most of the disasters, and he reaffirmed that farmers was



a must on the ways of reclaiming the affected land in post-disaster phase.

The others who were part of the Inaugural Function where Nagai Collector Tenkasi S Jawahar, who explained the disaster preparedness initiatives taken by the District Administration in the aftermath of Tsunami; Mr.Venkatesan Joint Commissioner, Relief, Tamil Nadu Government, Somasekar Rao – National Programme Coordinator Food and Agriculture Organisation, Mr. Prabhakar Concern Worldwide, Nammazhvar founder of Organic Farming Movement.

3. Off to sea with added vigour

On 9th August 2006 Indian Express Pudukottai reported “A Fishermen Development project is being organised by the Pudukottai Multi purpose Social Service Society for the past one decade benefited by 5000 families. The project is sponsored by a Spanish agency. The society has formed about 350 Fish – folk groups, with 15-20 members in each group. The donor has provided 100 Fibre Boats. The Fisher Folks were trained in Fibre Boat maintenance, working out income and expenses, record maintenance of and common fund utilization.

The distribution of the Fibre Boats was launched on January 2006 at Kattumavdi. Majority of the Fibre boats holder are Women SHGs of PMSSS, thus PMSSS has appealed to the TN Government to provide subsidised fuel to them.

The PMSSS has also provided training in Garment making, handicrafts, boat repairing and allied works. To add to their credit they also have 4 Training Centres for off sea activities”.



4. Karam offers roof for Tsunami Victims

On 10.08.06 – Indian Express Nagapattinam reported “Karam – A Coimbatore based NGO handed over 80 permanent houses for the Tsunami survivors of Kameshwaram village near Nagapattinam on Wednesday.

During the Function collector also mentioned that about 53011 Tsunami hit persons had been provided relief and rehabilitation assistance worth Rs.186 Crore in the district and nearly 18000 permanent houses are being constructed by as many as 51 NGOs”.

5. Rs1.63 crore for welfare schemes implemented through THADCO

On 10th August 2006 The Hindu Pudukottai reported that The Government has earmarked a sum of Rs.163 Crore to the district for Welfare Schemes implemented through the THADCO, the District Collector Thiru.S.J.Chiru. He said that it has been proposed to construct 1,336 group houses and renovate 504 Kutcha houses this year. And also expressed that there is a special Literacy programme in district and he expressed that women should take full advantage of it.

The Collector also distributed welfare assistance to 117 men and women belonging to weaker sections, including house site pattas to 42 persons, old age pension to 20, delivery assistance to 9 and financial assistance to 7 persons for setting up horticultural gardens etc., The Department of Information, Education, Child Development had organised photo exhibition. Health Department conducted a medical camp. Over 200 locals opened post office savings bank account during the programme and collector distributed pass books to them.

6. Rotarians Concern

On 10.08.2006 Thursday - The Hindu Chennai reported that The Rotary Club of Madras (District 3230) and the Rotary Club of Bombay (District 3140) mobilized Rs. 6.5 Crore and reconstructed houses for 140 families. Rotary International president William B.Boyd visited this village and neighbouring Kanathur, off East Coast Road.

A few families did not opt for reconstruction as they already owned homes, for which their loans are yet unpaid.

At Kanathur, facilities such as a vocational training centre, community hall, health care centre, library and a gymnasium have been created at a cost of Rs.2 crore. A group of villagers will manage the centres and the Rotarians will oversee the services.

7. Houses for Victims

On 15th August 2006 The Hindu reported "40 permanent houses constructed by the Rotary District 2980 for the Tsunami victims in Naagapattinam were handed over by Mr. William B.Boyd, president Rotary International, to the Collector Tenkasi S.Jawahar" ■

Houses for victims

NAGAPATTINAM: As many as 40 permanent houses constructed by the Rotary district 2980 for the tsunami victims in Nagapattinam district were handed over to the administration at a function held recently at Manalmedu village near Nagore. William B. Boyd, president, Rotary International, handed over the keys of the houses to Collector Tenkasi S. Jawahar.