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**Reconstruction Experience in Tamilnadu India after Indian Ocean Tsunami 2004**


### Impact of Tsunami – at a glance

- Districts affected : 13 out of 31
- Villages / hamlets affected : 238 / 418
- Lives lost : 7997
- Children orphaned by tsunami : 241
- Children who lost one of their parents : 1713
- Persons missing : 846
- Injured persons : 3625
- Houses damaged / destroyed : 118000
- People evacuated : 0.49 mn
- Population affected : 1.078 mn



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### Impact of Tsunami – at a glance



- Cable loss : 15082
- Fishing vessels Damaged
  - Boats : 8900
  - Boys : 42178
- Number of families whose livelihood was affected : 0.3 mn
- Assessment of damages (approx.) including housing : \$ 880 mn
- Agricultural lands and horticultural lands damaged : 8844.35 ha
- Roads damaged : 1548.32 kms
- Power lines damaged : 608 kms
- Damaged ports/fish landing centers : 14

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### Taking Stock after Relief & Response

- The swiftness of the assistance brought survivors back on the road towards economic recovery much faster in comparison to many of their counterparts in other tsunami affected countries.

Source: Tsunami – India: Two Years After  
A Joint report by UN, WB & ADB –Dec.'06

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### Road to Recovery – Strategic Intent



- RECONSTRUCT DAMAGED AND VULNERABLE HOUSES USING DISASTER RESISTANT TECHNIQUES
- UNDERSTAKE VULNERABILITY MAPPING TO LOCATE THE NEW HABITATIONS IN SAFER LOCATIONS
- CREATE NEW SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD OPTIONS IN HARMONY WITH ENVIRONMENT
- FORM SELF HELP GROUPS ESPECIALLY FOR THE WEAKER SECTIONS LIKE WOMEN TO EMPOWER THEM
- BUILD CAPACITY OF COASTAL COMMUNITIES TO COPE MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH DISASTERS
- RESTORE COASTAL ECOLOGY
- PROVIDE BETTER PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE
- ADDRESS PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA AND EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF THE CHILDREN FOR A BETTER FUTURE.

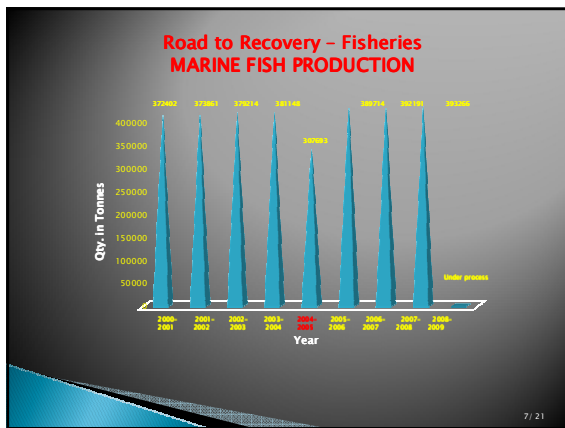
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### Road to Recovery – Fisheries



- Immediate Assistance of INR 1.5 billion given to restore fisheries livelihoods for replacing boats, nets and engines-better steel and FRP boats built
- Further assistance of INR 1.1 billion given in 2007 for nets, life jackets, ice boxes, lanterns
- Fishing harbours and fish landing centres restored at a cost of INR 114 million
- Long term reconstruction of harbours, dredging of river mouths and landing centres at a cost of INR 7.5 billion with assistance from World Bank, Government of India and Asian Development Bank

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### Road to Recovery – Housing

- BASIC FEATURES:**
  - Disaster resistant-equitable core house with stairs, water supply, sanitation, electrification, and insurance
  - In the joint name of the wife and husband
  - Land purchased by Government through negotiation with owners-1250 acres at a cost of INR 400 million
  - Technical specifications, draft MOU and facilitation only by state-state took up only what was not done by the partners
  - Joint verification of beneficiary lists

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### Road to Recovery – Housing

- HOUSES BUILT**
  - Houses built in the first phase-52,000
  - Additional houses built for indirectly affected-6019
  - Houses taken up in second phase to reduce future vulnerabilities-43,000
  - The total value of investment-INR 23.6 billion (Approx US \$524 million)

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### Road to Recovery – Agriculture & Horticulture

- Area affected – 8844.35 Ha
- Packages of measures adopted**
  - Application of Gypsum
  - Scraping of soil
  - Supply of green manure seeds
  - Leach with borewell and other water sources
  - Restoration of irrigation sources like farm ponds, tanks
- Special strategies adopted**
  - Formation of 612 Tsunami Farmers Self Help Groups
  - Amount spent with World Bank assistance – INR 136.91 Mn.
- All the lands affected reclaimed and multiple crops raised**

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### Road to Recovery – Livelihood

- Formation of 62,000 Self Help Groups with a membership of 900,000 women
- Initial training given on working capital, accounts maintenance, basics of market survey and market concepts, risk mitigation, gender equity & elimination of child labour.
- INR 1.02 billion Revolving Fund from Government and Asian Development Bank
- Skill Training for 155,420 members of SHGs.
- Economic assistance with Bank loan and interest subsidy.
- INR 357 million Grant to 35732 physically challenged persons
- Marketing Tie up with potential buyers, industrial units and service providers.

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### Road to Recovery – Major Infrastructure

- 62 bridges (including 6 high level bridges)
- 1548 kms of roads
- 2 minor ports
- 10 fishing harbours
- 17 fish landing centres
- 461 hospitals, cyclone shelters, schools, dispensaries built / restored
- 5678 ha. of shelter belt plantations
- 2162 ha. of mangroves
- Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan (ICZMP) for sustainable development of coastal areas.

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## Public Private Partnership



- Tremendous help in the relief phase.
- 516 NGOs involved in the relief phase and 72 in the reconstruction phase
- Overwhelming response
- >18000 Temporary Shelters, 11000 Houses, 1100 Toilets, 85 Community Centres, 225 Schools, 47 Child Welfare Centres, 55 Parks, 5 Hospitals,
- 100 Miscellaneous works.
- Govt. gave guidelines on house construction, model MOU, criteria for evaluation – Continuous dialogue with Civil Society Organisations.

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## Measures to improve transparency

- Appointment of District Level and Village Level Monitoring Committees.
- Publication of lists of beneficiaries in all villages, offices and on the websites of the Collectors.
- Efficient Redressal Mechanism – 0.192 million petitions received and disposed.
- Frequent interaction with Media, NGO's, Public representatives.
- Transparent Coordination Centres with NGO's / Corporates.



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## What was special about the Tsunami experience in Tamilnadu, India ?

- Immediate and decisive response of Governments of India and Tamilnadu–Total political commitment to build back better\*
- Provision of adequate financial and human resources–media exposure ensured the availability of funds not normally seen in the other disaster situations –formation of teams of experienced officers to coordinate at cluster of villages level
- Decentralization of financial and administrative powers with very little political interference

\* A report to the Nation by Prime Minister, Jan 2005

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## What was special about the Tsunami experience in Tamilnadu, India ?

- Willingness of the state to work closely with non state actors and to listen to their voices and concerns–coordination centers, frequent interactions and corrections to policy based on feedback
- Coverage of all affected sections based on media and CSO feedback like widows, elderly, orphans, physically challenged and expansion of program to cover indirectly affected like the farm labour, Dalits, and other marginalized families
- Extending the scope of the program to cover the vulnerable houses in the coastal areas, evacuation routes/shelters and early warning systems

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## What was special about the Tsunami experience in Tamilnadu, India ?

- Long term focus on children–scholarships to >125,000 school students for 10 years with special assistance from the Prime Minister and deposits to the orphaned and children who lost a parent
- Health Insurance coverage to 155,000 families
- Mandatory Insurance for all the houses for 10 years
- Insurance for all the assets created under the program

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## What was special about the Tsunami experience in Tamilnadu, India ?

- Respect for coastal ecology–no relaxation of coastal regulations, shelter belt and mangrove restoration and new planting–preparation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan–sea change in the attitude of fishers to such initiatives
- Gender focus to all the initiatives–joint ownership of houses, women self help groups, water supply and sanitation

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## What could have been done better?

- › Correctly assessing the time frame needed for reconstruction and buying in the stakeholders including political leadership on other options like rent instead of temporary shelters
- › Allotment of plots to owners before construction—not done uniformly
- › Participation of owners at every stage of rebuilding through labour, materials, supervision and commitment
- › Greater linkage with other programs to provide alternative materials for construction like compressed earthen blocks
- › Mandatory third party quality audit of construction instead of monitoring building through District Collectors and their engineers

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## What could have been done better?

- › Proactive planning of habitats and creation of infrastructure in advance with other developmental funds
- › Monitoring the use of donor funds received by NGO's for livelihood programs and initiating a system of audit of funds in the beginning itself-MOU for livelihood programs also
- › Creation of institutional mechanisms for improving the maintenance of assets created for the benefit of fishermen
- › Attempts to take up issues of social relevance like alcoholism, status of women especially widows and single women

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