

Managing Tsunami: Lessons of 26  
December 2004

# **On Education**

# 26 December 2005 Tsunami Orphaned kids

- One of the most severely affected victims of the December tsunami were the children (Children account around 30% of the casualty, the casualty in some of the districts of Tamil Nadu is 50-60% -UNICEF).
- Among the many people who died in the disaster, there were many parents who left behind orphaned

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Country	Separated	unaccompanied	Lost 1 parent	Lost both parents
Indonesia	818	42	-	-
Sri Lanka	1,169	28	3,729	-
<b>India</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,807</b>	<b>361</b>
Thailand	-	-	1090	-

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**• In India 24% of the Tsunami victims are Children**

Tsunami orphaned kids in the orphanage- Nagapattinam, India



# **Government orders to support for the rehabilitation of Tsunami victim students**

**G.O. (1.D) No.1 Date: 01.01.2005 – Free supply of text books and two sets of uniforms**

**G.O. (1.D) No.1 Date: 01.01.2005- Free issue of duplicate certificates for the students who have lost and made request**

**G.O. (1.D) No.1 Date: 17.01.2005- Students who have lost their practical note books will be exempted from submission and the total 20 marks be awarded**

**G.O. (1.D) No.1 Date: 02.02.2005- Government postponed the SSLC and +2 exams in the Tsunami affected areas and conducted one month after**

**G.O. (1.D) No.1 Date: 06.04 .2005-The government has sanctioned around 1.56 crores of rupees for the free supply of text book and note books to students**

**G.O. (1.D) No.1 Date: 02.02.2005- The Government will bear the tuition fees and special fees for the Tsunami affected families till 2006**

**Government deposited Rs.500000/ in the Childs name and he/she can use it after attained the age of 18 years. This can be used for further studies or self employment**

# **MSSRF -Bharat Soka Gakkai Programme on Long term Educational and Nutritional Support to Tsunami orphaned children**

- To provide long term support for educational purposes up to the completion of the last year of schooling of the child in Nagapattinam district of Tamil Nadu and Andaman Islands**
- To provide long term regular nutritional support to the identified orphan child and the family through weekly /monthly assistance**
- The government/government aided school going children (those who have lost both parents or lost one parent ) belonging to the poorer sections were identified for the programme in Nagapattinam district, Tamil Nadu**
- The other partners involved are District Educational Department, Local bank and a NGO (which has long and rich experience in sponsorship programmes)**
- All basic requirements of the orphaned children is supported**
- The nutritional requirements of the children is addressed through supply of locally available, nutritionally rich food items to the identified children's households**

# **MSSRF-, Tokyo American Club (Friends of MSSRF) Programme on Tsunami orphaned children**

- To provide support for educational, hostel and other basic requirements up to the completion of the last year of schooling of the child for the completely orphaned children in Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu**
- The other partners involved are District Educational Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, School Managements and the guardians of the orphaned children**
- MOU has been signed between the District Educational Department and MSSRF in which the roles and responsibilities to each of the partners are clearly mentioned**

# **Some of the observations from the field**

- Children are inherently vulnerable – lost their family and support systems – their future is uncertain -hence need a very special attention**
- Need to develop a holistic as well as case by case rehabilitation package (with gender sensitivity) in close collaboration with the local communities**
- Orphaned children are the most vulnerable among the Tsunami victims – rehabilitation with human rights perspectives to avoid the risk of exploitation and any violence**
- Sustaining the follow up- for sustaining the changes -by the support providing agencies to continue their education, taking care of health, and other welfare aspects. needs to be closely monitored**
- Continuing the education of the internally displaced children and children living in the temporary shelters- lack of data and the present status about the education of these children- need to develop a database and government's initiative to bring the drop outs back to school**

# Some of the observations from the field

**They need to deal with the mental trauma –hence need long term counseling (Rehabilitation in terms of material supply was abundant)**



**Fathima Murshita's painting recalled the horror she witnessed**

**Introduction of institutions like orphanages did not work –this is due to the social cohesion and the intrinsic values of the social structures ( no report of attempted trafficking and sexual abuse)**

**Any community based disaster preparedness should give special attention to the inherently vulnerable groups like Children/students**

**The focus need to shift from aid approach to collaboration/partnership mode to rebuild their lives**