

# INFORMATION UPDATE

Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies, Monthly Newsletter

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May 2006

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## Special Points of Interest:

- \* Tsunami Relief Project – Livelihood and Housing;
- \* F. J. and G. De Sarams;
- \* Resource Centres and New Acquisitions;
- \* Health and Livelihoods Grants Programme;
- \* Professional Standards.

## Tsunami Relief Project—Livelihood and Housing

### Tsunami Livelihood Grant

CHA received a new grant of Rs. 12.5 million from Diakonia for tsunami livelihood assistance. Work will commence with field visits to Matara and Galle to assess needs within the districts.

### CHA Tsunami Response – Booklet

A booklet which incorporates the assistance provided by CHA to affected persons was printed and disseminated to all districts, Community Protection Network (CPN) and to all donors who funded CHA.

### Monitoring

A field visit was conducted to Kalutara in order to attend the Tsunami Housing Monitoring Meeting held at the Divisional Secretariat, Kalutara. Issues with regard to housing construction, land issues in Kalutara were addressed. Division of land amongst beneficiaries

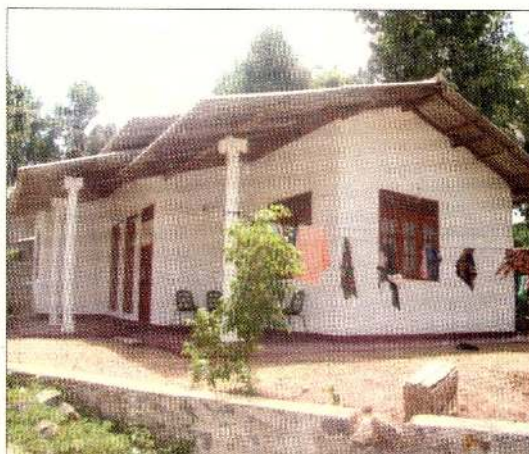
and road access to the land was discussed with the GA Kalutara who agreed to come up with a solution within a week. Three beneficiaries who were unable to receive funding from CHA were referred to the IFRC for support.



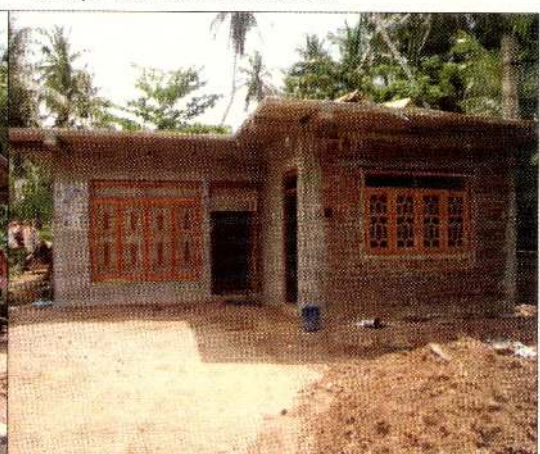
Completed house in Vinayagapuram, Ampara



Land for construction in Kalutara



Houses completed in the Matara District





## F. J. and G. De Sarams

CHA entered into an agreement with the F. J. and G. De Saram for a period of one year commencing the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2005, to act as Secretaries for all five Standing Committee Meetings, Steering Committee, General Assembly and AGM meetings conducted by CHA.

The services obtained by CHA are as follows:

- Acting as secretaries to all meetings; (mentioned above) in sending out notices and communications meeting the required dead lines;
- Keeping minutes and records thereof: and to circulate resolutions, filing all returns with the Registrar of Companies forms;
- Maintaining statutory books, etc.

F. J. and G. De Saram is an associate company of M/s., F. J. and G. De Saram. They render services such as Corporate Secretaries, Trustees, Registrars, etc. At present, De Saram's render services as Corporate Secretaries to over one hundred companies in Sri Lanka.

Incorporating CHA under the Companies Act is currently underway and its been handled by

F. J. and G. De Saram.

For more information contact Gihani Martyn on [memservcoord@cha.lk](mailto:memservcoord@cha.lk) or call on 4610943/4 on ext. 163.

## Membership Services

The submission on Tax Exemption was forwarded to the Minister of Finance on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May with a cover note, after receiving confirmation from the members.

Questions raised with regard to work permits and NGO reporting procedures were taken up with the Director, NGO Secretariat and answers given were collated and forwarded to the HSRP Unit.

The minutes from the GA and AGM were finalised and forwarded to the members.

Coordination was done with Manitha Neyam Trust who submitted their application for membership this month.

Temporary membership coordination is being done with Alliance Development Trust and Relief International.

For further information contact Gihani Martyn on [memservcoord@cha.lk](mailto:memservcoord@cha.lk) or call on 4610943/4 on ext. 163.

## Human Security Response Programme (HSRP)

*Contd. on pg. 03*

Three Radio Programmes, one in Sinhala and two in Tamil, were broadcast. Topics covered included IDPs, livelihood issues, empowerment of tsunami affected women and children, CPN activities, and mobile clinics.

The press releases appeared in English, Sinhala and Tamil on the 04<sup>th</sup> of May and focused on Transparency and Accountability, with activities on Merlin and Action Contre la Faim being highlighted. Some information on the new NGO regulations and a notification on the RADA Housing Policy was also included. The next press release, due to appear on the 02<sup>nd</sup> of June, will carry information on the CHA-LCI project, FORUT

Husing Programme, CHA publications on Livelihoods and IDPs, and the RADA Housing Policy.

Three Operational Meetings were held and presentations made included Mitigatory Measures for the Oversupply of Boats by FAO, DRMU Human Rights Sub Group's Report of Impact on Human Rights of Post-tsunami Relief and Reconstruction Policies and Activities of the Government and agencies, Livelihood and Development Needs in the Moneragala District by the Wellassa Development Forum. The operational meeting scheduled for the 27<sup>th</sup> of May featured a presentation on development assistance database – current status and future expectations by RADA.

The Livelihood Forum on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> of April focused on women entrepreneurs and on the UNDP Loan Scheme. The



## Human Security Response Programme (HSRP)

*Contd. from pg. 02*

Forum held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of May was a panel discussion on the FAO boat buy-back proposal.

The MoU with RADA was finalised and will be signed by the Executive Director of CHA and COO-RADA on the 02<sup>nd</sup> of June.

The Working Group on Best Practices for Sustainable Micro and Small Enterprise Development met for the first time on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May. The attendees consisted of twelve experts from I/NGOs, donors, the Government, and the private sector.

A site visit was made to Matara with RADA and FCCISL on the 02<sup>nd</sup> of May in order to observe the Livelihood Coordination Meeting and to discuss opportunities for improvement with CHA District Office, RADA, and the Government staff. The goal is to make the meetings more issues/solutions driven, with linkages to the national level as required, to improve value to the participants. Their next livelihood meeting will take place on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June.

RADA and FCCISL met with the Central Bank officials to review the bank's tsunami loan schemes. Joint update documents have been circulated to the livelihood mailing list.

An "ideas group" is being arranged with FCCISL, CHA and several key donors to look at long-term investment options for sustainable development.

A presentation on HSRP was given to the AmeriCares project staff of CHA. This was followed by a discussion on how the livelihood and health needs of beneficiaries and organisations could be channelled to this project.

The new Housing Policy was circulated and a meeting was held with RADA together with Oxfam GB on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May to decide on a strategy to communicate the contents of the policy to beneficiaries. A follow-up meeting took place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May. As RADA did not attend this meeting the conclusions of the meeting was sent to them.

Some of the important information sent out during the month include the RADA Housing Policy, Statements by the

UN, NVPF, ZOA Refugee Care and CHA following the attacks on INGOs in Muttur.

Visitors from the following places were provided with information on various tsunami related activities: Point Pedro Hospital (housing issues), a Canadian national (job opportunities in I/NGOs), Representatives of Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions (issues related to children in housing), Representative from ETC Lanka (Guiding Principles), Priest of a Church (assistance for rebuilding the Church and the Mission House), and a Consultant on Education, Health and Poverty Alleviation (transparency and accountability of I/NGOs).

The needs of housing sites in Hambantota that are facing issues major water shortages were given over to the Water and Sanitation Coordinator of the UNICEF who brought it up at the Water and Sanitation meeting. Following this, Caritas has undertaken to provide water tanks to the highlighted housing sites.

A request for assistance from MENR in solid waste management in Hambantota was circulated amongst NGOs working on environmental issues.

Request for assistance to reconstruct a Church in Kalawanchikudi was circulated amongst Christian organisations.

Leo Club of Moratuwa was given a list of donors who might be interested in funding their project to distribute stationery and dry rations to the under privileged in Wanathavilluwa, Puttalam.

Members of the HSRP attended several meetings including: Sector on Health, Agriculture and Fisheries; Donor Working Group on Housing; IOM Housing and Habitat Meeting; Oxfam Partner Meeting; RADA Meeting on Housing Policy; and I/NGO Meeting on Housing Policy.

For further information contact Ilishanthi Soysa on or call on 4610943/4 on ext. 170.



## Knowledge Management and Resource Centres

### eResources

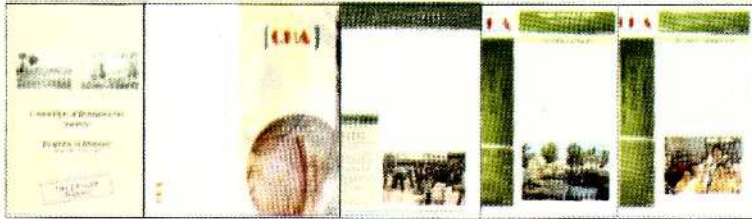
Initiatives were taken to further strengthen the e-based system, which is used mostly to achieve objectives at the district level. A computerised environment was established, in order to share resource material. As a pilot project, the system will be implemented in the districts of Kalutara, Matara, Badulla, Vavuniya and Jaffna.

Organisations and individuals in Badulla, Matara, and Vavuniya have been familiarising themselves with the system in order to obtain information.

### CHA-LCI Resource Centres on Disabilities

Three Resource Centres in the districts of Jaffna, Mannar and Vavuniya are operating smoothly and the first review of the project was conducted in Vavuniya. It has been considered to mainstream Information Assistants on issues related to disabilities soon.

### CHA Publications



### New Acquisitions

*Tamils of Sri Lanka: The Quest for Human Dignity*/Tamil Information Centre/2006: This report aims to provide the international community, including governments, with an understanding of the political, human rights and legal uncertainty that the Tamil speaking people face in Sri Lanka.

*Livelihood Assistance Assessed From a Villagers' Perspective*/World Bank/2006. A Netherlands – World Bank supported evaluation of three years of livelihood assistance under the unified assistance scheme a support package for Internally Displaced Persons in North and East.

*Women's Participation in Disaster Relief and Recovery*/Yonder, Ayse/The Population Council/2005. This book highlights that when grassroots level women's groups can form networks to transfer and scale up their innovative approaches across many poor communities, these networks can also press for the political and policy change that is required to achieve their aspirations.

*Tsunami Awareness Facilitators Guide*/UNICEF/2005 – This guide is for community support workers, youth leaders, teachers and others to facilitate the active participation in the tsunami

and to promote ways to rebuild their communities.

*Sri Lanka in Perspective*/Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies/2006. This handbook aims to provide all information required to the new I/NGOs who desire to set base in Sri Lanka.

*Accounting and Management Systems and Procedures for Tsunami Relief Projects*/Institute of Chartered Accountants/2005. The objective of this toolkit is to have a Transparent Accounting and Management Systems and Procedures for Tsunami Relief Projects in Sri Lanka.

For further information contact Chamika Mallawaarachchi on [infoanalyst@cha.lk](mailto:infoanalyst@cha.lk) or call 4610943/4 on ext. 116.

## Fundraising

Presently, there is no direct funding for the Resource Centre and the eTeam. The part funding from other projects do not cover costs. Invariably, every year this unit faces a large deficit. As the IT needs are growing by the day and technology is changing fast, there is a call to make this area sustainable.

To achieve this goal, CHA's IT services and products as well as Resource Centre services will be made available for a subscription fee, in the near future.

For further information contact Prashan Fernando on [info@cha.lk](mailto:info@cha.lk) or call 4610943/4 on ext. 102.

## eTeam Activities

The following updates were done on the CHA website:

- As a "National Service Provider", the CHA Resource Centre webpage has been made available in Sinhala and Tamil languages for the accessibility of all communities. [www.humanitarian-srilanka.org/Knowledge\\_Centre/DKC.php](http://www.humanitarian-srilanka.org/Knowledge_Centre/DKC.php)
- Annual Report 2005 is now available on: [www.humanitarian-srilanka.org/Knowledge\\_Centre/Publications.php](http://www.humanitarian-srilanka.org/Knowledge_Centre/Publications.php)
- The newsletter 'Empowerment, Jan- Mar 2006' is now on: [www.humanitarian-srilanka.org/Knowledge\\_Centre/DKClci.php](http://www.humanitarian-srilanka.org/Knowledge_Centre/DKClci.php)

For further information contact Jayanthi Somasekaram on [databaser@cha.lk](mailto:databaser@cha.lk) or call on 4610943/4 ext. 126.



## Human Right Accountability Coalition (HRAC)

### Status of Collection of News Articles

The coding team continues to collect information from articles of selected newspapers. The team is in final stage of collecting the data, with a few more Sinhalese language papers to be done. The documentation of English and Tamil paper articles have been completed. Presently, the articles that have been collected are being coded. (An update on the number of collected articles and the number coded cases have been shown in the tables below and right).

Several issues that should be dealt with has been raised by the team whilst coding newspaper articles. Most of the issues that have arisen due to violations of the Ceasefire Agreement (CFA) cannot be assimilated into the HRAC control vocabulary. Thus, the need to introduce new types of violations and definitions has been recognised in order to capture CFA violations. A memo was sent to the Asia Foundation Human Rights Programme Officer with regard to these issues. At present, a new set of violations codes is being drafted to capture the CFA violations by analysing the agreement as well as the newspaper articles.

### Collaborative Assistance to the HRAC

A new set of violations codes were introduced to HRC coding team on order to capture more violations from data on disappearances. Regular follow-ups were made on order to

monitor progress of the coding done by HRC Data Coders. Issues raised by Coders were addressed and resolved.

NEWSPAPER	Total number of articles to be coded	Total number of articles coded
SUNDAY LEADER	16	
SUNDAY THINAKKURAL	70	
SUNDAY THINAHARAN	30	
VIRAKESARI	493	139
THE ISLAND	313	100
SUNDAY ISLAND	44	
SUNDAY VIRAKESARI	45	
THINAKKURAL	821	
DAILY NEWS	162	
SUNDAY OBSERVER	32	
DAILY MIRROR	180	149
THINAKARAN	236	
SUNDAY TIMES	31	
LANKA DEEPA	671	
DINAMINA	14	
LAKBIMA	537	
SUNDAY LANKA DEEPA	7	
SILUMINA	3	
SUNDAY LAKBIMA	0	
SUNDAY DINAMINA	0	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3705</b>	<b>388</b>

NEWSPAPER	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
SUNDAY LEADER	0	1	5	1	1	2	2	0	0	1	1	2	16
SUNDAY THINAKKURAL	0	3	9	4	3	6	5	8	7	7	5	13	70
SUNDAY THINAHARAN	1	1	3	1	3	4	4	3	0	2	3	5	30
VIRAKESARI	14	11	37	25	29	35	32	39	51	46	67	107	493
THE ISLAND	6	24	24	26	22	23	24	31	34	30	25	44	313
SUNDAY ISLAND	0	6	5	8	3	4	5	3	3	1	5	1	44
SUNDAY VIRAKESARI	2	5	5	3	5	3	1	4	3	4	1	9	45
THINAKKURAL	18	42	69	66	65	93	65	80	62	68	62	131	821
DAILY NEWS	8	9	23	22	17	20	17	17	7	8	0	14	162
SUNDAY OBSERVER	0	0	2	3	10	4	2	1	3	4	1	2	32
DAILY MIRROR	2	6	11	21	18	18	17	15	21	18	14	19	180
THINAKARAN	3	9	10	17	24	25	19	19	30	25	19	36	236
SUNDAY TIMES	0	1	4	2	4	2	5	3	2	1	3	4	31
LANKA DEEPA	17	24	46	56	61	55	72	79	61	65	39	96	671
DINAMINA	3	11											14
LAKBIMA	27	32	48	34	55	55	58	50	46	43	30	59	537
SUNDAY LANKA DEEPA	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	7
SILUMINA	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1		3
SUNDAY LAKBIMA													0
SUNDAY DINAMINA													0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>3705</b>



## Peace and Development Programme

### District Proposals

#### Phase II

Documentation is being followed up in respect to partners from Trincomalee, Vavuniya and Jaffna. Funds have just been released to partners in Vavuniya and a few in Trincomalee. The progress is slow due to the security situation in the country but all efforts are being made to finalise agreements and release funds to commence project activities.

#### Phase III

To date, seventy-eight proposals have been received in respect of the thirteen districts covered. All proposals received have been acknowledged in the local language in which they have been completed. Applications could be downloaded from our webpage.

### National Proposals

A proposal received from Serendib Sri Lanka for Peace Camps for Children has been re-circulated to selected National Consultative Board (NCB) members for their views.

### National Consultative Board

The 10<sup>th</sup> NCB meeting was held on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May, 2006. New committee members are to be approached to join the NCB.

### Monitoring and Evaluation

The districts of Hambantota, Moneragala, Polonnaruwa, Badulla, Batticaloa, Mannar and Puttalam were visited by the programme staff whilst independent Monitoring Teams have also begun their monitoring activities as well, in selected districts. Arrangements are being made to conduct an in depth study of the views of the partners from both, Phases I and II during the next few weeks.

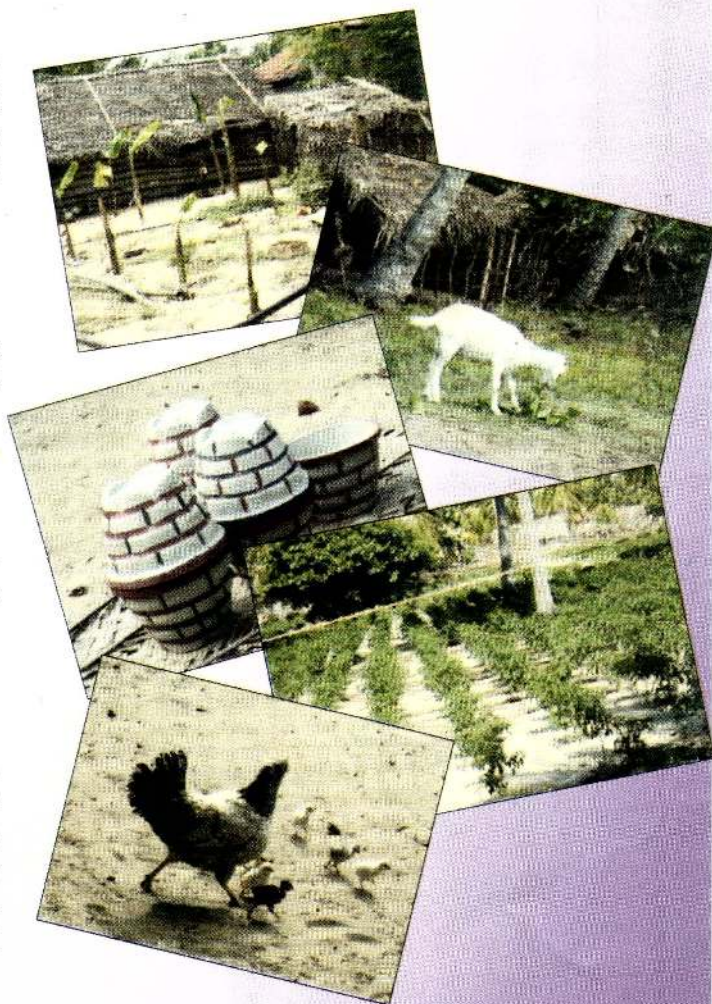
A field visit was conducted by the newly formed District Progress Review Committee in Moneragala. Meetings in the districts of Polonnaruwa and Hambantota are to be held during the next few weeks.

### Capacity Building

A workshop by two selected (capacitated) partners in Mannar,

to help the less capacitated partners to complete proposal formats for Phase III, was arranged for the 20<sup>th</sup> of May, 2006. Due to the unstable security situation, we hope to organise workshops in individual districts during the coming months in order to enable the partners to attend.

The first batch of workshops on Peace Related Capacity Building for Phases I and II partners in the districts of Badulla, Hambantota and Moneragala commenced on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May, 2006.



*Income Generation Project in the Puttalam District by P&D through P&D partners*

For further information of the projects being carried out, please visit our web page on <http://www.peaceanddevelopment.srilanka.org> or contact Bernadine Jayawardena on [pdmanager@cha.lk](mailto:pdmanager@cha.lk) or call on 4610943/4 ext. 117.



## Community Protection Network

### Paralegal Activity

Community Activism – One day refresher session on 'Community Activism' was held in the following districts:

District	Date
Galle, Matara, Kalutara and Puttalam	20 <sup>th</sup> May
Badulla	07 <sup>th</sup> May

A four-day residential workshop on 'Community Activism' for the CPN members was conducted in the Puttalam District.

District	Date
Puttalam	14 <sup>th</sup> to 17 <sup>th</sup> May

Paralegal workshops for the Northern Districts of Jaffna, Mannar and Vavuniya are yet to be confirmed due to the prevailing situation in the districts.

### Mobile Clinics

The fourth Mobile Legal Clinic was held in Badulla on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of May. Mobile clinics for the month of June are scheduled to be held as follows:

District	Dates
Hambantota	03 <sup>rd</sup> and 04 <sup>th</sup> June
Puttalam	17 <sup>th</sup> and 18 <sup>th</sup> June

A team comprising of five CPN members were selected from each CPN to act as an internal team for the whole network in providing systematic assistance to people in need in the districts. Badulla has started working towards this aim.

### Publications

The Livelihood Booklet has been sent to be printed and will be available for dissemination soon. In addition, the posters on the Buffer Zone as well as leaflets are currently being designed with the concurrence of RADA. A meeting was held with Oxfam as they were interested in collaborating in the dissemination. The second issue of the bi-monthly CPN newsletter was printed and distributed to the districts of Galle, Matara, Kalutara, Vavuniya, Puttalam, Mannar and Batticaloa. The third issue will be out in June.

### CPN Issues

The District Officer (DO) of Jaffna has contacted the Government Agent (GA) regarding the selection of land for tsunami housing. It

was emphasised that all NGOs should verify appropriateness of the list of housing beneficiaries before starting construction work.

The tense situation in Jaffna has caused the construction process of the houses to be delayed. A representative from CARE stated that people are refraining from getting sand from the Jaffna Peninsula due to the situation there.

A school in Puttalam conducted a protest, campaigning against the closure of school for a period of two months. The Government has failed to appoint teachers to the school. Following this issue, the Government has appointed teachers that are unqualified.

A representative from Muttur, Trincomalee informed that there are affected people from Muttur upto Kiliveddy, without houses. The DO of CHA, whilst trying to reply this issue, requested that the representative gather and submit the relevant information in order to discuss with relevant INGOs, the UNHCR and the GA.

The CPN representative stated that the basic needs of the war affected families in Trincomalee were not being met. The DO has briefed members on CHA's involvement in activities concerning IDPs and persons affected by internal conflict in the district of Trincomalee. The GA helped the families as an immediate incentive.

One of the CPN members stated that war and tsunami affected IDPs are living in dismal conditions. They are unable to provide any legal documents such as birth, death and marriage certificates, deeds/land permits, and identity cards. The DO stated that these problems may be directed to certain NGOs and CHA will do the needful follow-up.

Mannar District Children Clubs Libraries provided more than one thousand five hundred children's books in English to fifty-nine children's units, in order to enhance their knowledge in the English language.

The Vavuniya General Hospital has urgently called for blood. The CPN decided to organise a blood donation campaign. A CPN member was selected to coordinate the campaign.

Arms have been provided to the civilians of a particular ethnic group in the border villages of Vavuniya. Fear has arisen amongst other communities and the CPN has decided to inform the Human Security Programme of CHA.

Many pre-schools in Vavuniya suffer due to the lack of drinking water facility. Data with regard to requirements were collected.

For further information contact Sharmila Jeyarajewaren at [npo@cha.lk](mailto:npo@cha.lk) or call on 4610943/4 on ext. 151.



## Conflict Response—Emergency Relief Project

Contd. on pg.09

### Jaffna

In response to the humanitarian crisis emerging after the Allaipiddi incidents (which resulted in the deaths of thirteen civilians and displaced more than three hundred families), transport was provided to move two hundred and sixty families to safer places upon their request. Dry ration family packs were also provided to two hundred families. The relief activities are carried out through the CHA District Office in Jaffna with the concurrence of the GA.



Relief assistance in Jaffna

### Trincomalee

Relief activities are continuing and 810 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) received assistance in the form of food and other essential items. Each family received a family pack consisting of rice, dhal, sugar, milk powder, dry fish, etc. The packs were distributed amongst the displaced persons living in Muttur, Eachiliampattu and Kinniya DS Divisions. Distribution was done by the Relief Monitoring Officer and District Officers.



- 1) Relief distribution to 713 Families in Verugal, Trincomalee;
- 2) Distribution of relief items.

District	No. of beneficiaries who received livelihood assistance in the form of cash grants
Jaffna	286
Batticaloa	128
<b>Total</b>	<b>414</b>

### Monitoring in Trincomalee

A monitoring visit was made on the 03<sup>rd</sup> of May to Muttur and Eachiliampattu Divisions, covering five IDP welfare centres. Welfare centres visited were Verugal Welfare Centre, Punnaiyadi Namagal Vidyalayam, Government Mixed School Ilankaithuraimugathuvaram, Government Mixed School Nallur and Pattalipuram Welfare Centre. The purpose of this visit was to assess the ground situation and identify gaps in emergency needs. Photos taken during the visit:



District	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount Spent in Rupees (Rs.)
Jaffna	849	2,510,843.14/-
Mannar	352	1,238,000/-
Trincomalee	1922	3,848,578/-
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,123</b>	<b>7,597,421.14/-</b>

For further information contact Dhanya Ratnavale on [pphr@cha.lk](mailto:pphr@cha.lk) or call on 4610943/4 on ext. 118.

## Regional Initiative for the Right to Sustainable Livelihood and the Enabling of Social and Political Participation

The national adaptation of the training manual has been completed and was given to be translated into Sinhala and Tamil. Workshops are being planned and selection of participants is underway.

Workshops by MCRG and CA/SEHD have been completed.

For further information contact Dhanya Ratnavale at [pphr@cha.lk](mailto:pphr@cha.lk) or call on 4610943/4 on ext. 118.



## Advocacy Initiatives

Contd. on pg.11

**Fact Finding** – visits were made to Mannar, Trincomalee and Jaffna in order to assess the situation of the IDPs and the needs. The report in this regard has been completed and submitted to Mr. Lalith Weeratunga. In addition, the findings at the NE HS Forum held on the 04th of May were presented. The report was sent to HSRP for further circulation.

**Geneva Humanitarian Briefing** – Submissions have been translated into Sinhala and Tamil for wider circulation.

**Human Security Incident Reporting** – Upon request, a disabled person from the Mannar District was provided with a wheelchair. In addition, nine requests which were received have been forwarded to relevant internal programmes and external agencies. Follow-up is being done on a regular basis.

**Statement on 'CHA's Call to Curb Impunity and Restore the Right to Life'** – A proactive call to curb impunity and restore the rights of life of all persons was made by CHA on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May. The statement in

this regard appeared in the Daily Mirror of 25<sup>th</sup> May and is being widely circulated at present.

**Letters and Newsletters** – The following letters and newsletter have been distributed:

- i). A letter is being sent to the Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries requesting for compensation for fishermen of Vidathal Thevu village who were attacked by Indian fishermen;
- ii). A letter was sent to ICBL requesting accreditation and approval to launch the landmine monitor in Sri Lanka this year;
- iii). The third issue of the IDP Newsletter in English, Sinhala and Tamil have been printed and disseminated.

**Buffer Zone and Housing Policy** – RADA has released its revised housing policy. CHA met with several I/NGO representatives to discuss a wide-spread public information campaign to focus on beneficiary awareness with reference to the changes made to the housing policy. Issues will be taken up with RADA and collaboration will be sought on information dissemination in the form of booklets, leaflets, posters and other forms of media on the latest versions.

## Health and Livelihood Grants Programme to Assist Tsunami Affected Districts

The AmeriCares project brochure is currently being printed in English, Sinhala and Tamil and will be distributed widely.

This project proposes to improve the health and livelihood of tsunami affected persons by funding local CBO's and NGO's with legal status to provide assistance to affected families in each tsunami affected district. The project targets assisting a minimum of 2000 families and 8000 children. The first grant cycle of the project will focus on five districts, namely Kalutara, Galle, Matara, Batticaloa and Ampara. The second cycle will focus on Hambantota, Trincomalee, Jaffna, Kilinochchi,

Mullaitivu, and Colombo.

The programme will be advertised in the newspapers of the 04<sup>th</sup> of June in all three languages. The application package consisting of both narrative and financial formats to be used by the applicants is available at all district offices as well as on the CHA website ([www.humanitarian-srilanka.org](http://www.humanitarian-srilanka.org)). The deadline for all proposals will be the 28<sup>th</sup> of June 2006. For further details please contact program staff.

For further information contact Dhanya Ratnavale on [pphr@cha.lk](mailto:pphr@cha.lk) or call on 4610943/4 on ext. 118.



## Peacebuilding and CSA Programme

### A Peacebuilding Workshop for P&D Partners

Five workshops on "Community Peacebuilding, Mediation and Negotiation" have been scheduled so far in the districts of Badulla, Ampara, Jaffna, Puttalam and Trincomalee. Participation is only by invitation. The first workshop was conducted in Badulla on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of May combining the Badulla, Hambantota, Moneragala and Polonnaruwa Districts in Sinhala and in Puttalam on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of June where sessions in Sinhala and Tamil will be conducted simultaneously. The main objective of these workshops is to build the capacities of community level Peacebuilders by studying the technicalities of Peacebuilding, Mediation and Negotiation.

### CSA Workshops

<i>Date</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Partner</i>
05 - 06 May	Batticaloa	Tamil	SOND
06 - 07 May	Jaffna	Tamil	CHA DO Jaffna
09 - 10 May	Puttalam	Tamil	CHA DO Puttalam

### Conflict Sensitivity/PCIA

A workshop for Applying the Approaches on GTZ THSP, Conflict Sensitivity Workshop was conducted by CHA on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of May. In addition, communication on

training continues with GTZ (they still need some internal coordination before moving ahead).

Discussions with RedR are underway to include Conflict Sensitivity into the CHA/RedR portfolio.

### Brookings IDP Project

Preparations for this project has begun and interviews will be held next month.

### General

A concept paper was submitted to CIDA project on Sustainable and Conflict Sensitive Reconstruction in Tsunami Affected Areas: Mainstreaming Conflict Sensitivity. A cross-sectoral approach was suggested to: a). mainstream Conflict Sensitivity Approaches; b). address implementing agencies funded by CIDA and possibly a wider group of agencies involved in recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation work in Sri Lanka.

A proposal for the Peace Audit Output Workshop is being finalised. In addition, two new proposals are being finalised for Peacebuilding work.

For further information contact Minna Thaheer on [peacemngr@cha.lk](mailto:peacemngr@cha.lk) or call on 2598413.

## Administration

Job vacancies for the posts of Web Developer, Communications Officer and Internal Auditor were announced in the weekend newspapers.

The staff medical insurance scheme has been renewed for the year 2006. Information regarding health insurance has been given to all staff including DOs and RedR staff. In addition, the accident insurance for all staff is being finalised. It will cover "death or permanent disability and/or partial disablement as a result of an accident" and will be on a 24-hour worldwide basis.

Two District Officers (Galle and Batticaloa) participated in a training workshop in Israel on "Comprehensive Training for Development - Linking Vocational and Entrepreneurial Education", organised by the Negev Institute for Strategies of Peace and Development.

Applications of potential participants for Personal Safety and

Human Security Training have been forwarded to RedR for processing and currently awaiting confirmation from RedR.

The district staff of Trincomalee shifted to a new building. All CHA, HSRP, Resource Centre, and ASC staff will now be located at the same premises. The new office premises for the Vavuniya District Office is being finalised. The venue has already been chosen and the lease agreement has been signed.

The basic requirements of the DOs were identified. The Unit is currently in the process of filling the gaps in order to uplift the gaps in human resources and infrastructure requirements.

For further information contact Shammi Nissanka at [adminoff@cha.lk](mailto:adminoff@cha.lk) or call on 4610943/4 on ext. 107.



## Advocacy Initiatives

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Posters and booklets are being designed on the Buffer Zone and Housing Policy for wide dissemination amongst the public.

**Humanitarian Forum** – The report cards from the first Humanitarian Forum held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April in Galle, have been processed and analysed. Further information and facts are required from beneficiaries for further action.

The next Humanitarian Forum will take place in Galle and will involve beneficiaries from Ambalangoda and Hikkaduwa. Two beneficiaries from the first Humanitarian Forum will be invited to attend to share their issues with beneficiaries in Ambalangoda and Hikkaduwa.

**Public Reports** – The public reports have been completed by three districts and will be implemented in early June. Posters are being processed and will be put up in the districts. CHA is looking into cases where I/NGOs have declined in providing information to be published for several reasons. Posters will be put up in each tsunami affected district listing NGO

activity within the respective districts, highlighting information that will be of benefit to beneficiaries such as ongoing projects; status of projects; implementing agency; division and the number of beneficiaries involved.

**National Submissions** – High Security Zone and IDP papers were sent to the GAs in Mannar and Jaffna for feedback and comments.

The three issue papers (IDP/HSZ/Poverty Alleviation/Empowerment for Women and Children/Youth Affairs) are being condensed in order to be publicised in the newspapers.

For further information contact Dinusha Pathiraja at [po\\_hsp@cha.lk](mailto:po_hsp@cha.lk); Dushanthi Fernando at [advocacy@cha.lk](mailto:advocacy@cha.lk); Nayomi Dharmatileke at [advocacycoord@cha.lk](mailto:advocacycoord@cha.lk) or Sharmila Jeyarajeswaren at [npo@cha.lk](mailto:npo@cha.lk) or call on 4610943/4 on exts. 104, 124, 158 or 151, respectively.

## Promotion of Professional Standards

### CHA/RedR–IHE Programme

The following courses were scheduled and conducted through the RedR–CHA training programme, during the month of May:

- Training of Trainers – five–day workshop in Kandy;
- Management of Relief and Development Projects – three–day workshop in Kandy;
- Sphere in Humanitarian Practice – four–day workshop in Wadduwa.

Sphere Training – Four CHA personnel were given training in Sphere. Potential external personnel who could be in the Trainers' pool were identified.

RedR CHA District Learning Support Officer (DLSO) for Jaffna carried out limited training assessment needs in Jaffna and Kilinochchi. DLSO for Hambantota and Galle were recruited and will assume work in early June.

### District Consortia

Mannar Consortium\*Ex Committee was addressed by DED

in Mannar on 28<sup>th</sup> May. Improving professional standards both internally and to its membership in the district was discussed in detail. INGO and local NGO were addressed of the strength of the Consortium and to work in close liaison with the organisation.

### Capacity Building, Training and Consultancy

Consultant Program – CHA will provide its services in conducting two modules in the consultant training program sponsored by FLICT. Discussions are being carried out and the proposal is being drafted. The modules undertaken are Trainers' Skills and Organisation Development and Self–Evaluation. Subjects related to Peacebuilding projects have also been undertaken.

Media Training in collaboration with BBC was discussed. The draft of concept paper under the heading “NGO's and the Media – Building a New Relationship” – BBC World Service Trust and the CHA is being done.

For further information contact Hashim Firzan on [depexdir@cha.lk](mailto:depexdir@cha.lk) or call on 4610943/4 on ext. 110.



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Senior Finance Officer

Wipula Kalyanapriya  
Programme Officer

Shaheena Akbarally  
Programme Assistant

N. Manorajini  
District Officer HSRP—Ampara

Nilusha Weeraratne  
HR Officer

Prashan Fernando  
Programme Area Two Coordinator

Calendar for June 2006

CHA Meetings in June:

The **Operational Meeting** will be held every Friday at the Sri Lanka Institute for International Relations (SLIIR).

The **DRMU Meeting** will be held at CHA every Wednesday from 08.00a.m. to 09.00a.m.

The **Livelihood Forum** will be held at the Sri Lanka Institute for International Relations (SLIIR) on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June at 09.45a.m.

The **LBAF** is scheduled tentatively to be held at CHA on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June from 10.00a.m. to 11.00a.m.