controlled by the businessmen who were always profit motivated. The natural calamities which affected the fishermen too compelled them to by and borrow for meeting out their daily needs. To relieve the fishermen the government is compelled to probe into the problems of their problems and their redressal. All such aspects have their own echo over the marketing. So the government had brought out many useful schemes for the welfare and uplift of the fishermen as well as fishing industry. They are beneficial for the fishermen, whose life is a problematic one throughout their life. The five year plans have also promoted the well being of the fishermen.

CHAPTER VI

NATURAL DISASTERS AND PROBLEMS OF FISHERMEN

A disaster is a sudden or great misfortune which can, perhaps be rightly termed an ‘Act of God’. Many natural disasters are of meteorological origin, barring perhaps an earthquake or a fire. The most common disasters which cause devastation and disasters are cyclone, floods, severe storms, drought and heat/cold waves. Even in the cause of pollution disasters, fire, locust invasion, wind, temperature and humidity play an important role in their genesis and fanning out process. It is accepted that the government and the community must come to the successor of the victims of disasters.539

Disasters are either natural such as floods, droughts, cyclone and earthquakes or human made such as riots, conflicts, refugee situations and other like fire, epidemics, industrial accident and environmental fallouts, often, the differences between them are marginal.

Globally, natural disasters account for nearly 80 per cent of all disaster affected people. The insurance industry estimates that natural disasters represent 85 per cent of insured catastrophe losses globally.

The Webster’s Dictionary defines a disaster as “a grave occurrence having ruinous result”. The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines disaster as any occurrence that causes damage, economic destruction, loss of human life and deterioration in health and health services on a scale sufficient to warrant an extraordinary response from outside the affected community or area.\textsuperscript{540}

Tropical Revolving Storms (TRS) are known as cyclones. It has presented the greatest dangers to shipping from the earliest days of seafaring. Even the biggest of ships are not safe when caught in tropical storms.\textsuperscript{541} The mythology and epics of every civilisation have presiding deities for most natural phenomena. In our mythology Indra is a Lord of thunderbolt, Varuna of water, Panjanya of clouds, Marut of storms, Vayu of winds, Agni of fire and Savitha of Sun. Today man is trying not only to understand but also they alter and even control the weather.

\textsuperscript{541} P.A.Menon, \textit{op.cit.}, p.205.
Primitive man believed that he could propitiate nature through incense and invocation. Today man with his sophisticated technology is keen upon transforming nature to order. Both attitudes are patently unrealistic. One can try to understand the causes of natural phenomena attempt to predict their future pattern of behavior as much in advances as possible and then take adequate precautions to mitigate if not avoid the consequences.\(^{542}\)

In general the fishing community occupies the low social status. Majority of the fishermen belong to an economically weak and they are followed traditional method of indigenous crafts and gears.\(^{543}\) Most of the fishermen work on wage basis. There are considerable improvements in the living conditions of fishermen in recent years. At the same time they are perennially indebted to the middlemen, who advances financial help to them at times of need, in return for their entire catch assessed at a low price. The middlemen also control the sale and marketing of fish. The government is always been helping fishermen at times of distress.\(^{544}\)

The government is giving financial assistance for the schemes such as the fishermen who lost their life, lost their fishing craft and other implements and also who meet with accident while conducting fishing operations. For their distress the government took many relief measures from time to time. Several relief measures had been taken by the

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\(^{542}\) Ibid., p.1.

\(^{543}\) Interview with Thiru. G.John Dass, Clerk, Fishermen Co-operative Society, Mulloorthurai, on 12\(^{th}\) June 2006.

\(^{544}\) G.O. Ms. No.1430, Food and Agriculture Department, dated 15th April 1958, TNA.
government to alleviate the distress among the fishermen caused by floods, famine, cyclone and failure of fishing season.

The relief measures undertaken by the government included free supply of yarn, sail cloth, 50 per cent grant for repairing fishing boats, sale of catamarans, yarns at subsidised rates, and procuring alternative house sites to fishermen rendered homeless by sea erosion.\(^{545}\) The government also help the fishermen with suitable relief measures and the payment of ex-gratia grants, wherever and whenever necessary.\(^{546}\)

In 1953, due to the cyclone there were giant tides in sea and caused sea erosion in Tondiarpet (Madras) coast area. So many fishermen families rendered homeless. Those affected fishermen by the sea erosion in Tondiarpet had been provided alternative site, food and fishing amenities.\(^{547}\)

The Secretary of the Madras State, Cyclone Relief Fund was placed at the disposal of the Minister for Agriculture, a sum of Rs.1000/- for making discretionary grants to the fishermen who had suffered material loss in the storm. A cheque or pay order for that amount was separately sent to the Director who was requested to disburse the grant in his discretion to the deserving fishermen so as to benefit adequately as many fishermen as possible who had sustained loss in

\(^{545}\)Interview with Thiru. John Paul, Co-ordinator of AGDGAF, Thoothoor on 20\(^{th}\) October 2005

\(^{546}\)Interview with Thiru. G, John Doss, Clerk Fishermen Co – Operative Society, Mulloorthurai, on 23\(^{rd}\) October 2005.

\(^{547}\)Indian Express, dated 22nd June 1953.
the storm. The Government had sanctioned an expenditure of Rs.1600/- for distribution among the affected fishermen. As a sum of Rs.1000/- was placed at the disposal of the Director of Fisheries, the government directed that the amount of expenditure of Rs.1,600/- sanctioned and reduced to Rs.600/-.

C.P. Kelu Erady, Director of Fisheries, Government of Madras reported that, on the evening of 8th June, 1958 on account of the sudden and unexpected heavy gale followed by heavy rain that swept the city of Madras. Some of the fishing boats and catamaran logs hauled up and kept on the beach opposite to the various fishing villages and also the city were damaged. They had also stated that the boats kept on the beach about forty to sixty feet away from the high water mark of the sea were tossed up in the air and dropped at a distance, resulting in severe damage to them. The total number of boats damaged were reported to be twenty, in addition to three catamaran logs and the total loss was estimated at Rs.4105/-. As the affected fishermen were unable to use these damaged boats for fishing, they had approached the fisheries department for pecuniary help to get their boats repaired. So the Director of Fisheries had recommended the grant of a loan of Rs. 100/- to each affected fishermen.

On Monday, 6th October, 1958 at about 10 pm an unexpected gale swept over the Royapuram Bay north of Madras harbour. There

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548 G.O. Ms. No. 3167, Development Department, Government Madras, dated 8th July 1953.
549 Lr.No. Rc. 17431 / F 11 / 58, dated 17th June, 1958 of Director of Fisheries, Madras.
were no weather warning of this gale was received from the metrological department, nor did any forecast about this gale appeared in the newspapers. During this part of the year the weather was normally calm. Monsoon set in only later and not in the first week of October and the boats had been lying anchored only in Royapuram bay every year except during the north east monsoon period. The gale that swept the area that night was an unexpected and unusual one. The weather till the evening of that day did not give any indication of such a gale even to the fishermen. So much so, fishermen of P.B.NO.4 and I.B.NO.2 (2 bablo boats) set out for fishing and returned that night, as it was raining, they had led down more anchors. The watchman of the Madras Fishermen Co-operative Federations and watchman of the fisheries department and the crew of the respective boats also rain forced the anchorage for the other boats, as the rain was getting heavier in the evening.

There were eight boats anchored north quay of the harbour, a sheltered bay where boats used to be anchored except during east monsoon period. The two watchman to watch over the boats while in anchorage. The sea suddenly became rough and the velocity of wind turned cyclone. Immediately the crew of these boats were collected and they attempted to reach the boats, but wind and waves so strong that these men were pushed a shore. A few of the boats were first seen being tossed and drifted by the waves near the shore. Even these could not be pulled out as it was dark, raining heavily and the waves were also high and blusterous and the required eight boats involved in the mishap one boat was given to Balakrishnan and his group, two boats were given to
Kasimedu Fishermen Co-operatives Society, one boat given to Ayothikuppam Fishermen Co-operative Society, one boat was given to Madras Fishermen Co-operative Federation and two boats were allotted to Madras Fishermen Co-operatives Federation and surf boat belonging to the Indo Norwegian Project, Neendakara.

Director of Fisheries, Deputy Director of Fisheries, Assistant Director of Fisheries, Fisheries Welfare Officer and Inspector visited cyclone havoc area and the Director of Fisheries recommended some relief measures to affected fishermen.

The loss involved due to the damage to the boats was a loss of two hulls of pablo boats allotted to Madras Co-operative Federation. Rs.12,675/- for repairs was allotted to the two engines to Madras Fishermen Co-operative Federation, Rs. 1,000/- was given two boats to Kasimedu Fishermen Co-operative Society, Rs.5,750/- was given boat to Madras Fishermen Co-operative Federation,. Rs.2,950/- to Ayothikuppam Fishermen Co-operative Society, Rs.1,916/- to Balakrishnan and group Rs.350/-. Total repairing charges was Rs.24,641/-. Since the damages caused by the gale could be attributed only to natural causes which are beyond human control, the government written off Rs.12,675/-. The repairing charges had been borne by the government for the same reason.550

Another event took place on 6th October, 1958 at about 2 a.m, there was a strong cyclone quite unexpectedly and the sea was rough. As a result of this, the catamarans logs that were beached opposite to the fishing village at Ennore kuppam, Nattu kuppam, Eranavoor, Kasikoil

550 G.O Ms No.959, Food & Agriculture Department, dated 18th March, 1961, TNA.
kuppam and Thiruvottiyur kuppam were washed away due to the storm. Some of the lost catamaran logs were subsequently traced at Royapuram and Tondiarpet in all 66 persons belonging to the above villages had suffered logs estimated at about Rs.10,845/-. During the mid-night, the fishermen could not anticipate it and kept their catamarans away from the sea-shore to avoid such loss. The logs could not therefore be attributed to the negligence on the part of the affected fishermen. Hence C.P. Kelu Erady, I.A.S, Director of Fisheries, requested to government to sanction a loan of Rs.100/- to each fishermen whose estimate loss was above Rs.100/- and a loan of Rs.50/- was to be given. The government accepted his proposals and sanctioned a sum of Rs. 4,605/- as loan to the fifty three fishermen of the above mentioned fishing kuppams under the usual terms and conditions.

During December 1964, the heavy tides of cyclone and storm hit Dhanushkodi in the Ramanathapuram district. The whole Dhanushkodi was completely washed away. During this disaster the fishermen community was worst affected. The fisheries department immediately took up remedial measures after survey of the area by the Director of Fisheries personally. A special unit staff of one Assistant of Fisheries assisted by three Inspectors of Fisheries and six sub inspectors of fisheries was stationed at Mandapam camp to took after the distribution of cyclone relief to the fishermen. Strenuous efforts were taken by the department in arranging for the distribution of relief to fishermen by way of cash grants and loans, subsidy

551 Lr. No. Rc.33217/F2/58, dated 8th December, 1958 of Director of Fisheries, Madras.
552 G.O.Ms.No.30, Food & Agriculture Department, dated 3rd January, 1959, TNA.
553 G.O.Ms.No.71, Food and Agriculture Department, dated 8th January 1965, TNA.
in respect of loans of boats, repairs to boats, repairs to nets and coir ropes.\textsuperscript{554} Details of relief given to the affected fishermen during 1964 and 1965 as given below:

\textbf{1. Supply and repairs to Boats}

a. Number of Fishermen benefited - 1,028  
b. Subsidy paid - Rs. 1,32,500  
c. Loan disbursed - Rs. 90,045  
d. Total amount spent - Rs. 2,22,545

\textbf{2. Completely damaged Boats}

a. Number of Fishermen benefited - 363  
b. Subsidy paid - Rs. 1,71,450  
c. Loan disbursed - Rs. 1,88,850

\textbf{3. Supply of Nets and Repairs to Nets (both nylon and cotton yarn)}

a. Number of Fishermen benefited - 5,080  
b. Subsidy paid - Rs. 3,57,489.25  
c. Loan disbursed - Rs. 2,67,072.35  
d. Total amount spent - Rs. 6,24,561.60

\textbf{4. Havoc cash grant paid}

a. Number of Fishermen benefited - 3,582  
b. Amount paid at Rs 50 each - Rs.1,79,100

\textsuperscript{554} A. Ramaswami, (ed.), \textit{Gazetteer of India, Tamil Nadu State, Ramanthapuram District}, Government of TamilNadu, 1972, pp.303-304.
5. Assistance to karavalai (Shore Seine nets)

a. Number of Fishermen benefited - 185
b. Subsidy paid - Rs. 71,200
c. Loan disbursed - Rs. 2,87,540.46
d. Total amount spent - Rs. 3,60,560.46

6. Free supply of nylon twine and floats gifted by the Red cross

a. Number of Fishermen benefited - 1,507
b. Quantity of nylon distributed (kgs) - 5,802
c. Number of floats distributed (kgs) - 4,00922\(^{555}\)

During the year 1959-60 a sum of Rs.545/- as subsidy and a sum of Rs.350/- as loan were given to fishermen who were affected by the fire accident in Tangachchimatam village in Ramanathapuram district.

In November 1966, the huts of the fishermen in Uyyalikuppam and Padupattinam in Chingleput District were heavily damaged by cyclone and rains and that all approaches to these kuppams were cut off and consequently these kuppams were isolated completely. The Assistant Director of Fisheries, Madras had taken immediate step to affected fishermen. An expenditure of Rs.376/- had been for this by the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Madras. The Assistant Director of Fisheries had requested the reimbursement of the above expenditure from the Fishermen’s Distress Relief Fund. Because there was provision to incur this

\(^{555}\) Ibid., p.303.
expenditure out of the Fishermen’s Distress Relief Fund, Madras. A. Padmanabhan, I.A.S, Director of Fisheries, Teynampet, Madras - 6, wrote a letter addressed to the Minister for Information and Fisheries and Chairman of the committee for the Fisheries Distress Fund, Fort. St. George, Madras–9 requesting the committee to ratify his approval of the expenditure of Rs.376/. As a special case, government approved the action of the Director of Fisheries in having incurred a sum of Rs.376/. From the Fishermen Distress Relief Fund, Madras towards feeding the fishermen of Uyyali kuppam and Pudupattinam, Madras during the cyclone of November 1966.\textsuperscript{556}

On 21st December 1956, the two fishermen of Kootapully who had gone out by fishing by a catamaran did not return in home. It was feared that they had drifted into the sea. The Assistant Director of Fisheries, Tuticorin send the vessel “M.F.V Gour Kgaleeli” on 22\textsuperscript{nd} morning to search the fishermen into the sea. He also informed the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Kanyakumari and the nearby police station that Kootapully was a fishing village on the sea coast in Nangunari taluk of Tirunelveli district, and is about eight miles to the north coast of Cape Comorin. He also phoned up to the Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department, Madras on 22\textsuperscript{nd} December, 1957 about this and had requested him to send a radio message to all the ships that might be in that zone so that they might have a long look out and render necessary help to these to unfortunate fishermen. The Assistant Director of Fisheries, Tuticorin submitted a detailed report in the matter.

\textsuperscript{556}G.O.Ms.No.4001, Agriculture Department, dated 26\textsuperscript{th} December 1966, TNA.
The devices to rescue the fishermen who happened in the mid sea was informing the ships in the sea to search them. In spite of many attempts it was absolutely impossible to locate the boats of the fishermen and their dead bodies. The police traced the bodies of the missing persons but their attempts proved futile. Even though telegraphic messages were sent to the police station along the coast from Ovari to Cape Comorin and Colachal to search for the missing persons, no trace of the two persons could be found. Soosai Mariyal widowed mother of Jesu, one of the missing persons was depending on him and was entirely helpless. Hence, the Director of Fisheries recommended for the sanction of Rs.300/- to her as a compassionate grant. Maria Elezabethammal with her three male children was depending on Devasahayam Fernando, the other person. She had three male children but none of them had enough age to earn a living. So she and her three children were helpless. She had been granted Rs.500/- as relief.\footnote{G.O.Ms.No.3833, Food and Agriculture Department, dated 5th May 1958, TNA.}

The boat I.B.113 with five fishermen on boat got lost at sea during the cyclone in October 1963 off point Calimere. This boat reached Singapore on 25th November 1963 after having been picked up by a Japanese vessel bound for Singapore, on 21st November, 1963 in the same sixteen miles south of cyclone with one fisherman on boat. The rest of the three fishermen having died while at sea. The High Commission acted as agent to make the fishermen landed in foreign lands. The repatriation of this boat with the single survivor was arranged by the Deputy High Commissioner for India, Singapore and the boat returned to Madras on 13th December 1963. Antony was one of the fishermen, who had lost his life in
the sea. The mother of deceased fishermen, Theresammal living in the north side of St. Peter and Paul Church, Kadiapattanam, Kanyakurmai district had requested the government for grant of relief as the family was leading a miserable life due to the death of the only bread winner of the family.558

The Director of Fisheries M. Sargunam, who was sanctioning authority consulted the matter with the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Nagarcoil and sanctioned a sum of Rupees Fifty to M. Theresammal, mother of late Antony, as ex-gratia under powers delegated to him. He had stated that the Assistant Director of Fisheries had further reported that the family of the deceased had become very poor since the death of the only bread-winner of the family, that this poor family members had no house of their own that they were living in a small house with their relatives. The Assistant Director of Fisheries, Nagarcoil, therefore, recommended the grant to relief to the tune of Rs.300/- as free grant the bread-winner family, so as to enable them to eke out their livelihood. The Director of Fisheries had recommended the proposal of the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Nagarcoil for sanctioning of a sum of Rs.300/- to M. Theresammal, mother of Sri. Antony as free grant. The government accepted the proposals of the Director of Fisheries and sanctioned a sum of Rs.300/- to M. Theresammal. The Revenue and Finance Department too agreed to the proposals.559

558 G.O. Ms. No. 1767, Food and Agriculture Department, dated 5th June 1964, TNA.
559 G.O. Ms. No. 1857, Food and Agriculture Department, dated 11th June 1963, TNA.
It is a well known fact that often the fishermen’s settlements are affected by unforeseen natural calamities. On the night of 30th April, 1966 the cyclone storm hit the coast of South Arcot district caused heavy damages to the fishing villages, and to their properties of north Pondicherry. Ten fishing hamlets had been affected. The damages had been caused chiefly to huts of the fishermen and the Masula boats used for operating the shore seine nets called as periavalai. The Assistant Director of Fisheries, Cuddalore promptly inspected all the fishing villages personally and made a correct assessment of the damages to the fishing crafts and tackles of the fishermen in these villages.

The Minister for Fisheries accompanied by the Collector of South Arcot visited the affected areas. The revenue officials like, Collector, Revenue Divisional Officier, Tahsildar and Panchayat Union Commissioner, had also inspected the villages and made an assessment of the damages to huts of the fishermen.

Chettynager, Kunnimedu, Mudaliarkuppam, Annichankuppam and Pudukuppam were worst affected villages due to the cyclone. The Collector had taken speedy action and made arrangements for the disbursement of the usual cash grant upto Rupees Thirty to the affected persons whose huts had been fully damaged on 10th May 1966. In the case of fully damaged huts the sum of Rupees thirty was inadequate to meet the high cost of materials and labour for reconstruction of the huts. Therefore some additional relief was necessary. Here was a number of houses in which the roofs had been blown off partly and portions of the walls
had also collapsed. Such persons had not been given any relief for rebuilding their houses by the revenue department.\textsuperscript{560}

The government carefully examined the question of affording relief to the fishermen of South Arcot, affected by the cyclone on the night of 30\textsuperscript{th} April, 1966 and the cyclone off Devanampattinam village on 19\textsuperscript{th} May, 1966.\textsuperscript{561}

Fishermen also were forced to face the outcome of heavy rains. C.P.Kelu Erady, Additional Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras submitted the report to the Secretary to Government, Food and Agriculture Department, Fort St. George, Madras. The President of the Ennore Fishermen Co operative Society had represented to him that four fishermen of their village lost their fishing nets and catamaran logs due to heavy rains on 4\textsuperscript{th} November, 1957 and 5\textsuperscript{th} November 1957.\textsuperscript{562} He also recommended to distribute four bundles of 6’s yarn, five bundles of 10’s yarn, twelve bundles of 20’s yarn and two pieces of 9’ length catamaran logs to them at free of cost so as to eke out their livelihood. He also added that the petitioners were bonafide fishermen and members of the Ennore Fishermen Co operative Society and they deserved government help. Unless the above materials were purchased and distributed to them free of cost, they were unable to carry on fishing. The Additional Director of Industries and Commerce had recommended to distribute thirty seven

\begin{footnotes}
\footnotetext[560]{G.O.Ms.No.2476, Agriculture Department, dated 28\textsuperscript{th} July 1966, TNA.}
\footnotetext[561]{Lr.Rc.No.32141/EI/66, dated 7\textsuperscript{th} March, 1966 and 1\textsuperscript{st} July, 1966, of the Director of Fisheries.}
\footnotetext[562]{Lr.R.c.No.26745/WB2/57, dated 6\textsuperscript{th} February, 1958 of Additional Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras.}
\end{footnotes}
bundles of different counts of yarn and two pieces of 9’ length catamaran logs at a total cost of Rs.690/- to the affected fishermen of Ennore at free of cost.

The government accepted the proposal of the Additional Director of Industries and Commerce, and sanctioned an amount of Rs.690/- towards the purchase and free supply of yarn and catamaran logs to the four fishermen of Ennore, who were affected by heavy rains.563

During the cyclonic period, the fishermen suffered a lot of problem and were without proper pucca shelter. In this circumstances the government sanctioned the provision of construction of twenty six community halls in Ramanathapuram and Thanjavur coastal areas. These community halls are of immense help to those coastal districts. The allotment of total grant of Rs.5,20,000/- the total expenditure of community hall was Rs.20,000/- that expenditure was reimbursed from the Madras Cyclone Relief Fund 1955.

The names of community halls in Ramanathapuram and Thanjavur fishing villages are, Pasipatnam, Tondi, Nambuthalai, Mullimunai, Morepanai, Tirupalakudi, Mudiveeranpatnam, Athankarai, Durgavalasai, Alagathavalsasai, Pamban, Savariyarnager, Ariyankundu, Anthoniarpuram, Karaiyur, Natarajapuram, Ramakrishnapuram, Kilamundal, Valinokam, Mookaiyur, Rochemanagar, Alathikadu, Chinnamunai, Razhunmangudu, Pudukudi and Muthukuda.

563 G.O.Ms.No.935, Food and Agriculture Department, dated 7th March 1958, TNA.
Absence of safe shelter in the form of pucca school buildings, churches, temples or other common buildings was another problem of fishermen. Those community halls provided some relief to the families which are huddled together in one small hut especially during continuous rainy seasons.\textsuperscript{564}

Fire is another natural calamity, very often faced by the poor fishermen. Economically, poor fishermen live only in huts with thatched roofs. On 5\textsuperscript{th} September, 1966, there was fire accident at Ayothikuppam, Madras. There were eighty fishermen families who had been affected by the accident. The Minister of Fisheries inspected the place of accident (Ayothikuppam) on 6th September, 1966 and discussed with A. Padmanabhan, Director of Fisheries. He took about the immediate relief measures to the fishermen affected by the fire accident, at Ayothikuppam. The Minister for Fisheries ordered the Director of Fisheries for the grant of Rs.50/- to each of the affected families. Accordingly the Director of Fisheries proposed to distribute a cash grant of Rs.50/- to each of the affected families. This money was used by them to rebuild another hut on the same site. This grant Rs.50/- was not sufficient and they borrowed money from money-lenders at high rate of interest.

In the urgency of the situation, and as the committee also had not yet been formed, the Director of Fisheries made arrangements for the disbursement of the cash grant from Distress Relief Funds through the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Madras.\textsuperscript{565} Hence, he requested the

\textsuperscript{564} G.O.Ms.No.743, Agriculture Department, dated 7\textsuperscript{th} March 1966, TNA.
\textsuperscript{565} G.O.Ms.No.3035, Food and Agriculture Department, dated 20\textsuperscript{th} September 1966,
Chairman of the committee, Fishermen’s Distress Relief Funds and Minister in-charge of Fisheries, Fort St. George, Madras to approve and to pass early orders to draw and disburse the amount of Rs.4000/- from the above in anticipation of the committee’s approval.\(^5\)\(^6\) In the circumstances, the Government had approved the Fishermen’s Distress Relief Fund, a sum of Rs.4000/- towards payment of cash grant to eighty families at the rate of Rs.50/- each affected by the fire accident at Ayothikuppam.

The government ordered the setting up of the “Fisheries Distress Relief Fund” (FDRF) from the source like donations by fishermen co-operative federation unions and societies from their common good Fund, donations from fishermen and persons interested in their welfare, proceeds from the sale of flags during the fishermen week and other contributions and donations. The government permitted the opening of a Personal Deposit Account in the name of the Director of Fisheries, Madras in the Reserve Bank of India, Madras. They further directed that the personal deposit account should be operated by the Director of Fisheries.\(^5\)\(^6\)

Another fire accident took place in Poobalapuram on 15\(^\text{th}\) July 1957 located near Tuticorin. It was due to the carelessness of a housewife, most of the male member of those fishing village were out at sea for fishing. The twelve huts were burnt. The Sub-Collector, of Tuticorin has given Rs.30/- to each of the affected families.

Only two of the affected person had lost their fishing gear and accessories in the five accident along with two bundles of yarn. Since a

\(^{566}\) Lr. R.C.No.64065/EI/66, dated 12\(^\text{th}\) September, 1966 of Director of Fisheries.

\(^{567}\) G.O.Ms.No.2910, Agriculture Department, dated 7\(^\text{th}\) September, 1966, TNA.
temporary relief had already been given to the fishermen, yarn and fishing implements alone were necessary for the two fishermen.\textsuperscript{568}

Hence C.P.Kelu Erady, Director of Fisheries, Government of Madras recommended to the Secretary to Government, Food and Agriculture Department, to give a free grant of sail cloth and yarn of different counts to a value of Rs.185/- for both of them.\textsuperscript{569}

Another fire accident took place on 7\textsuperscript{th} December, 1957 in Kanyakumari. Six individuals lost their houses and fishing implements. The mater was referred to the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Nagercoil and he reported after a detailed enquiry. He was requested for a relief for those affected poor fishermen through the government. The fire started form the huts of one Thiru. Alankaram cruz very near the Roman Catholic Church, Kanyakumari. Since the huts was completely made of Palmyrah leaves including walls, the Palmyrah leaves of the wall of the hut near the earth caught fire while, the female members of the hut were busy outside the hut. The male members of the house had gone for fishing and it became absolutely impossible to check the fire from the spreading. At the same time the wind was very strong. As the result the fire spread over to the nearby huts. All these event happened in a few minutes and the fire was generally put out with the help of the male members and the fire brigate brought subsequently of neighbouring locality from Nagercoil. The hut of Shri. Alankaram cruz was completely burnt away and the other huts were partially

\textsuperscript{568} G.O.Ms.No.3729, Agriculture Department, dated 4\textsuperscript{th} September, 1958, TNA.
\textsuperscript{569} Lr.Rc.No.20970/FII/57, dated 20\textsuperscript{th} March, 1958, Director of Fisheries.
destroyed and their fishing implements were also destroyed. The affected fishermen by fire, who were his needed government help.

A sum of Rs. 300/- was sanctioned to the victims of the fire accident on 7th December, 1957 in Kanyakumari (Cape Comorin) for 6 fishermen. In this connection Sri R. Tirumalai, I.A.S. Collector, Nagercoil sent a letter addressed to the Secretary to Government, Food and Agriculture Department, Fort St. George, Madras by stating that the sum of Rs.25/- each had already been granted by the Revenue Divisional Officer, Padmanabhapuram to the Six Persons as per the recommendation of the Tahsildar, Agastheeswarans and the amount was disbursed to the fire victims.

On 16th July 1958 at 11 am a fire accident occurred at Tindivanam town in South Arcot district. Fire destroyed not only the huts, but also the fishing materials. In the fire accident fifty one nets worth about Rs. 850/- were burnt to ashes. Without the nets it was impossible for the fishermen to pursue their daily avocations. As the South Arcot Fishermen Co-operative Society had no fund at that time, it was not possible to give loans to the affected fishermen to purchase fishing nets. So the Collector of south Arcot district informed the Assistant Director of Fisheries Vellore to request the government to grant a sum of the Rs 850/- to the Tindivanam Fishermen.

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570 G.O.Ms.No.3057, Food and Agriculture, Department, dated 4th September 1958, TNA
572 G.O.Ms.No.3670, Food and Agriculture Department, dated 5th November 1958, TNA.
Co-operative Society as loan for the purchase of nets for distribution to the affected persons.\textsuperscript{573}

The Assistant Director of Fisheries, Vellore recommended to the Director of Fisheries, Madras to give one net free for each, to solve present urgent requirements.\textsuperscript{574} He also recommended 40’s, 20’s quality and six skeins, two skeins quality of yarn respectively for making one caste net. He also recommended the supply of free clothing to the above affected nineteen fishermen families as they had lost almost all their clothing in the fire accident. Totally twenty three male adults, twenty six female adults, eighteen male children and eleven female children were affected by fire accident. It was decided to distribute each male adult with one dhoti and one towel and for each female adult with one saree and for each male child with three yards of cloth and for each female child with five yards of cloth.\textsuperscript{575}

The Director of Fisheries recommended the same to the Government of Tamil Nadu. Hence, W.R.S.Sathianathan, Chief Secretary to Government, Public Department, Fort St. George, Madras sent his letter addressed to the Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi for necessary relief measures. After getting the relief from the Central Government and Government of Tamil Nadu sanctioned the above amounts on considering the recommendations of the Director of Fisheries.\textsuperscript{576}

\textsuperscript{573} Lr.RC.No.4953/D/58, dated 3\textsuperscript{rd} August, 1958 of Assistant Director of Fisheries, Vellore.
\textsuperscript{574} Lr.RC.No.40717/B6/58, dated 31\textsuperscript{st} July, 1958 of Collector South Arcot.
\textsuperscript{575} G.O.Ms.No.3670, Food and Agriculture Department, dated 5\textsuperscript{th} November, 1958, TNA.
\textsuperscript{576} Lr.RC.No.5638/58-2, dated 24\textsuperscript{th} July, 1958 of Director of Fisheries.
During 1983-84, the exgratia grants at Rs.5,000/- deceased continued, Rs.1,26,400/- was disbursed to the 62 fishermen families all over Tamil Nadu, who lost their family bread-winners while fishing in the sea.\textsuperscript{577}

During 1984-85 the Government of Tamil Nadu sanctioned the payment of ex-gratia grants at Rs.5,000/- per family of the deceased continued. A total sum of Rs.2,25,000/- was disbursed to 45 fishermen families, who lost their family bread members while fishing in the sea.\textsuperscript{578}

In 1973 the State Government sanctioned Rs.6,525/- over and above the sum of Rs.10,882.55 already sanctioned for the construction of nine houses for those affected by sea erosion at Manapad village in Tirunelveli district.\textsuperscript{579} In 1974-75, a total sum of Rs.40,000/- was disbursed to fishermen families, who lost their bread while fishing in the sea.\textsuperscript{580}

The government sanctioned a sum of Rs.2,78,436/- towards payment of compensation to the Panchayat Unions in Thanjavur for the loss of fishery rentals for a period of 12 years from 1956-57 to 1967-68 at the rate of Rs.23,203/- per year. That payment of compensation is made only on the

\textsuperscript{578} Ibid., 1984-85, Fisheries Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, 1989, p.14.
\textsuperscript{579} G.O.Ms.No.198, Forest and Fisheries Department, dated 13\textsuperscript{th} November, 1973, TNA.
\textsuperscript{580} Tamil Nadu State Administration Report, 1974-75, Madras, 1976, p.
verification of the fishery rentals. Above having the procedure of verification of credit particularly only in future.\(^{581}\)

In 1977-78, a total sum of Rs.50,000/- was disbursed to fishermen families who lost their family members while fishing in the sea. During the same year a sum of Rs.37 lakhs was also given to cyclone relief.\(^{582}\)

Every year a large number of houses perished either by free accident or by sea erosion or cyclone. Normally, during the rainy seasons people of the coastal area were transferred to the nearby schools, where accommodation facilities were provided temporarily. In order to avoid such kind of hardships, the fisheries department started to construct small houses suited to live in any kind of climate with the assistance of the Public Works Departments. It also provided loan facilities to construct houses for the fishermen who lost their houses by sea erosion or cyclone. They provided loans to reconstruct their lost house. They also introduced the subsidy system. If the fisher-folk have possessed no lands, the fisheries department purchased private lands and were distributed to the landless fishermen for constructing house.\(^{583}\) But in case of fishermen families who huts had been either fully damaged or partly damaged, on adhoc cash grant of Rs.50/- was paid to each family apart from the sum of Rs.30/- if any, received by them from the revenue department.\(^{584}\) During 1970’s the welfare measures taken by the government gained new momentum. The nationalised banks were

\(^{581}\) G.O.Ms.No.115, Forests and Fisheries Department, dated 17\(^{th}\) October, 1973, TNA.
\(^{582}\) Tamil Nadu State Administrative Report, 1977-78, Madras, 1979, p.
\(^{583}\) Interview with Thiru. G.John Dass, Clerk, Mulloorthurai, Fishermen Co-operative Society, Kanyakumari, on 5\(^{th}\) October 2006.
\(^{584}\) G.O.Ms.No.2476, Agriculture Department, dated 28\(^{th}\) July 1966, TNA.
widely utilised to get loans for purchasing fishing instruments and other amenities. Loans were also granted to the fishermen at low interest to construct houses. The Fishermen Co-operative Marketing Union was established and it helped the fishermen to get adequate financial assistance from the District Co-operative Central Bank under the scheme of financial assistance offered by the Reserve Bank of India of fishing amenities and other articles connected with fishing.\textsuperscript{585}

Tamil Nadu Government constructed 108 cyclone safety centres in coastal areas in and around coastal districts of Tamil Nadu. It is very helpful to the fisher-folk.

Sea erosion was one of the natural calamity. Most of the fishermen affected by the sea erosion. So many causes to create the sea erosion. They are, cyclone, construction of new fishing harbour and boat jettys and absence of bar mouth. The government to check the sea erosion constructed the boundary walls in the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu. The fishermen who were affected by the sea erosion, the government distributed the cash grants and houses on the memory of the Singaravelar Housing Scheme. Hence the Government took efforts to set aside the sea erosion completely.\textsuperscript{586}

In 1996-2000, the government constructed the boundary walls to prevent the sea erosion in throughout Tamil Nadu, the details are given table 6.1.

\begin{center}
Table 6.1
\end{center}

\textsuperscript{585} Interview with Thiru. G.John Dass, Clerk Mullorthurai Fishermen Co-operative Society, Kanyakumari, on 5\textsuperscript{th} October 2006.
Construction of Boundary Walls

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.No.</th>
<th>Name of the Village</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Expenditure Rs. in Lakhs</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tharangampadi</td>
<td>Nagapattinam</td>
<td>56.06</td>
<td>1997-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Poompuhar</td>
<td>Nagapattinam</td>
<td>86.54</td>
<td>1997-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Thoothoor</td>
<td>Kanyakumari</td>
<td>14.70</td>
<td>1997-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Pallamthurai</td>
<td>Kanyakumari</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>1997-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Vaillavilai</td>
<td>Kanyakumari</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>1997-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Poothurai</td>
<td>Kanyakumari</td>
<td>14.60</td>
<td>1997-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Eraiumanthurai</td>
<td>Kanyakumari</td>
<td>15.70</td>
<td>1997-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Arokiapuram</td>
<td>Kanyakumari</td>
<td>45.00</td>
<td>1997-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Sothanaikuppam</td>
<td>Villupuram</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>1998-99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Ennore</td>
<td>Thiruvalur</td>
<td>125.40</td>
<td>1997-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Ennore</td>
<td>Thiruvalur</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>1997-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Ennore Viraiyurpathai</td>
<td>Thiruvalur</td>
<td>98.50</td>
<td>1998-99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Ennore Viraiyurpathai</td>
<td>Thiruvalur</td>
<td>103.00</td>
<td>1998-99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>North Chennai</td>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>59.00</td>
<td>1998-99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


In 1997, the relief schemes due to the natural calamities like, cyclone, sea erosion, fire, floods, etc are stopped in Kanyakumari district. So the people are suffered lot.\textsuperscript{587}

The highlight of welfare scheme implemented by Tamil Nadu Government is the new introduction of Tamil Nadu Fishermen Accident

\textsuperscript{587}Interview with Thiru. G. John, Dass, Clerk, Fishermen Co-operative Society, Mullorthurai, on 5\textsuperscript{th} October 2006.
Insurance Scheme. It was started to provide relief to the fishermen in harness. Those who are members of Fishermen Co-operative Society (both marine and inland) between the age of eighteen to sixty years are eligible to be a member of Group Accident Insurance Scheme. This scheme was implemented with the assistance of Government of India. During 1984-85, in this scheme an amount of Rs.15,000/- was paid to each of the fishermen families who died in harness either while in fishing or in accident. For any permanent injury sustained a sum of Rs.7,500/- will be paid to him for future sustenance. For this insurance scheme the fishermen had to subscribe only Rs.3/- and the balance being subscribed by the Central and State Government at Rs.6/- and Rs.3/- respectively. Out of the total premium of Rs.12/- per annum, under this scheme a total number of 1,16,264 fishermen in all over Tamil Nadu have been enrolled.\textsuperscript{588}

Under the Group Insurance Scheme, fishermen are insured against death and accident. In case of death and total disablement, the scheme entails payment of Rs.15,000/- and in case of partial disablement the payment will be Rs.7,500/-. The State and Central Government share the expenditure on the premium to be paid to insurance company. During 1989-90 about 1.5 lakhs fishermen were covered under the scheme and the legal heirs of 157 diseased/disabled fishermen have been given relief to the tune of Rs.21.92 lakhs. From the inception of the scheme in 1984-85 till 1989-90, relief has been given to 746 cases amounting to Rs.1,04,42,500.\textsuperscript{589}

In July 1\textsuperscript{st} 1993, the government implemented a new scheme, accordingly in case of accident resulting in the death or total disablement, Rs.25,000/- is paid to the family of fishermen and in the case of accident resulting in partial disablement Rs.12,500/- by Managing Director, National Fishermen Council (N.F.C.) Ltd. New Delhi on the recommendation of Commissioner of Fisheries. Rs.9.75/- is remitted by each fishermen as annual premium. The disbursing officer is Regional Assistant Director of Fisheries.\textsuperscript{590} In the case of accident resulting in death or permanent total disability Rs.2.25 lakhs (100\%) loss of two limbs or two eyes Rs.2.25 lakhs (100\%) given as a solarium through the Fishermen Co-operative Society from 13\textsuperscript{th} September, 1999 to 12\textsuperscript{th} September, 2000. This amount was disbursed by New India Assurance Company Limited, Tirunelveli from 13\textsuperscript{th} September 1999 to 12th September 2000.\textsuperscript{591} In 2000, Fishermen Insurance Scheme Fund was enhanced from Rs.35,000/- to Rs.50,000/-\textsuperscript{592} In the same year the relief assistance of Rs.2.45 crores was disbursed to 902 fishermen under Fishermen Accident Insurance Scheme. For example of this scheme, on 22\textsuperscript{nd} November, 2000, the Fisheries Minister Ms.Jennifer Chandran handed over a solarium of Rupees one lakh to the wife of Kuppusamy of Thirusivarikuppam, who was declared missing at sea on 10\textsuperscript{th} June, 1996.\textsuperscript{593}

\textsuperscript{590} G.O.Ms.No.56, Animal Husbandary and Fisheries Department, dated 24\textsuperscript{th} June 1993, TNA.
\textsuperscript{591} Lr.No.TVL.DO.JPA.DM, 99, dated 12\textsuperscript{th} August 1999, from New India Assurance Company Ltd.
\textsuperscript{592} Tamil Arasu, April – June 2000, Magazine for the Government of Tamil Nadu, p.86.
\textsuperscript{593} The Hindu, dated 24\textsuperscript{th} November 2000.
Beneficiaries of Fishermen for the Fishermen Group Insurance Scheme, Central and State Scheme to details about the district wise for the year 1996 to 2001 as detailed in the table 6.2.

Table 6.2
Fishermen Group Insurance scheme and benefit of Fishermen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>year</th>
<th>No.of beneficiaries</th>
<th>Benefit Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>1996-1997</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>21,89,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Thiruvallur</td>
<td>1997-1998</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>67,09,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kancheepuram</td>
<td>1998-1999</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>25,99,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Villupuram</td>
<td>1997-1998</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>22,56,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Cudallore</td>
<td>1999-2000</td>
<td></td>
<td>51,89,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Thanjavur</td>
<td>2000-2001</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Pudukottai</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Nagapattinam</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Ramanathapuram</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Rameswaram</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Thothukudi</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Tirunelveli</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Kanyakumari</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1,89,44,4000</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The fisher women extension service scheme focused on the welfare of fisherwomen exclusively is operative only in Tamil Nadu. There were 53 Fisher Women Co-operative Societies functioning in the state, of which six societies were registered during 1989-90. During that year, a share capital assistance of Rs.90,000/- had been provided to four societies. A number of
welfare activities such as credit for marketing savings, promotions, training in tailoring, handicrafts, running of ration shops, fair price counters to supply controlled essential commodities, running balwadies, day care centres, adult education centre and health units have been taken up. These activities help the fisher women not only to supplement their family income but also to improve their socio-economic and educational standards. They ultimately aimed at the uplift of the fishing community at large.594

In the case of fishermen, whose catamarans had been lost or broken in the cyclone, the assistance not exceeding Rs.300/- for replacing the damaged boats on the basis of 50 per cent loan was given. The loan was recovered in 50 monthly installments in a period of 5 years. An interest of 5/4 per cent per annum was charged on the loan granted in all these cases.

In the case of fishermen who had lost their nets or damaged beyond repair assistance was given in the form of cotton yarn to the value not exceeding Rs.300/- on 5 per cent subsidy and 50 per cent loan basis. The loan portion was recovered in thirty installments in a period of three years.595

In the year 1998-99, government in their G.O.Ms.No.131, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department, dated 15th June 1998 have sanctioned a scheme for procuring 100 FRP catamarans. The amount eligible was Rs.25,000/- and 50 per cent subsidy. The Director of Fisheries was sanctioning authority to the above scheme. It is also arranged the 50 per cent subsidy and 50 per cent Bank loan. In this scheme 56 fishermen were benefited.

595 G.O.Ms. No.2476, Agriculture Department, dated 28th July 1966, TNA.
In 1996-2000, a sum of Rs.12,000/- for in-board and Rs.10,000/- for out-board motorised traditional fishing boats in 6,674 motors and 1,446 fishing nets, totally Rs.8,834,81,437/- disbursed as subsidy.

In 1999, a sum of Rs.1,13,983/- has been disbursed as subsidy to 94 fishermen each upto a maximum amount of Rs.1,500/- for the traditional fishing vessels using kerosene and diesel for in board and out – board motors at 50 paise per litre.\(^{596}\)

In 1996-97, the government introduced the scheme called disbursed 1,500 V.H.F. wireless machine to fishermen at 25 per cent subsidy. In this scheme the government distributed the 26 V.H.F. wireless of 26 fishermen in Kanyakumari district.\(^{597}\)

During many occasion, the fishermen faced untoward incidents while fishing in the sea. Eleven shore seine net operators of Kadiapatnam in Kanyakumari district had represented a petition on 9\(^{th}\) November, 1961 to the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Nagercoil, that their nets were damaged during operation in the sea, on account of the submerged rails in the sea. These rails were laid by the former illuminate factory for taking the rare sand deposits of this beach to their factory for processing.

On 6\(^{th}\) December, 1961, they suspended fishing and removed the rails submerged in the sea through their divers. They had reported that due

\(^{596}\) Tamil Arasu, April-June 2000, Government of Tamil Nadu, p.87.  
to the suspension of fishing operations on 6th December, 1961 and the damage caused to their nets earlier they had sustained a total loss of Rs.5,000/-. They requested for relief from the fisheries department.\footnote{G.O.Ms. No.2462, Food and Agriculture Department, dated 24th July 1962, TNA.}

The Assistant Director of Fisheries, Nagercoil had reported that the damage was actually caused to the nets. He had further, reported that the shore-seine fishing during that year was a complete failure and the fishermen had to face starvation. At this stage, the loss sustained by them beyond their capacity to bear. He had therefore, recommended a loan of Rs.150/- to each of the eleven shore-seine operators. He had also reported that out of the eleven persons originally applied for relief, one Kitherian Soris 1962 and in had expired on 27\textsuperscript{th} February, 1962 and in he recommended to grant loan to Michale Soris, the only partner to him.

H.K.Ghazi, Director of Fisheries, Madras recommended the government to sanction Rs.150/- to the eleven shore seine nets operators. The beneficiaries were M.P.Alkanthar, S.Leon, Panipitchi, J.Augustine, Paniadimai, K.Soosai Michael, Michale Soris, V.Paniadimai, J.Siluvai Curzu, M.Thomaier and S.Chinnappan on considering the recommendation of the Director of Fisheries, the government sanctioned a sum of Rs.1,650/- towards grant of loan at Rs.150/- each eleven shore – seine net operators of Karavalai at Kadiaptnam for replacing their nets. The loan was sanctioned on the conditions that (i) the fishing materials purchased or repaired out of the loan sanctioned should be mortgaged to government till the loan was repaid in full (ii) the loan shall be recoverable within a period of two years.
in two equal annual installments (iii) interest of 5 ½ per cent per annum shall be charged on the amount of loan (iv) a penal interest at 7 ½ per annum shall be charged on all over due installment (v) the disbursement of loan sanctioned and the recovery of the same shall be through the concerned Fishermen Co-operative Society. All the fishermen by giving grants, they misused the money. The Director of Fisheries requested by the government to see that the loan sanctioned was utilised by the grantees only for the purpose for which it was intended.\textsuperscript{599}

Rahgbir Singh, Director of Fisheries, Government of Madras addressed to the Secretary to Government Food and Agriculture Department, Madras that the government while sanctioning the loan, had also ordered, that the disbursement of the loan and the recovery should be through the concerned Fishermen Co-operative Society.\textsuperscript{600} As all the net operators were not members, in any of the Fishermen Co-operative Society, the Director of Fisheries instructed the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Nagercoil to induce all of them to become members in the local Fishermen Co-operative Society and there only to draw and disburse the loan after fulfilling all conditions.\textsuperscript{601} But the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Nagercoil had reported that the local Fishermen Co-operative Society, due to riots and factions in the village, was at present defunct, the records were thrown into the sea and it had no Panchayatdars at that time and was awaiting an enquiry under section 45 of Travancore-Cochin Act. He had reported that until the enquiry was over, the amount sanctioned could not be drawn and disbursed to the affected

\textsuperscript{599} \textit{Ibid}.  
\textsuperscript{600} Lr. RC.No.1914 EL-62, dated 30\textsuperscript{th} October, 1962 of Director of Fisheries.  
\textsuperscript{601} G.O.Ms.No.2462, Food and Agriculture Department, dated 24\textsuperscript{th} July, 1962, TNA.
fishermen. All the other conditions prescribed in the government order would be carried out before disbursing the loan to the fishermen.

Hence, the Director of Fisheries requested the government to relax the condition. So that the loan could be disbursed to the eleven persons directly by the government in the name of each individual. The recoveries might be effected by the Department through the Sub-Inspector of Fisheries, Kadiapatanam who was having his office in the same village. The Assistant Director of Fisheries, Nagercoil was authorised to draw the loan amount from Huzhur Treasury and disburse the loan to the fishermen.602

The service of the Catholic Church was remarkable when the fishermen were suffering out of natural calamities. On 5th January, 1958, Rev. Fr. Ambrose, Parish priest and D.C.Deleless, Panchayat member, Kadiapatanam sent a letter to the District Collector, Nagercoil that on 3rd January, 1958 Friday at about 8 p.m. some of the Fishermen of Kadiapatanam village were fishing in the sea, near Kadiapatanam, within two miles of the shore a passengership came that way from west to east in full speed dashed against the fishermen engaged in fishing near about that place even though they showed signal by means of torch light and lighted matches and by shouting. The passengers on the deck of the ship also rained an alarm. But the ship proceeded on its course without slowing down or charging its course. The fishermen in the affected catamarans (Thomas Peter and Antony Eronimus) had to struggle for their safety and they managed to get into the nearby catamarans completely exhausted and with injuries and one of them was undergoing treatment. On account of the incident fishermen had lost

602 Idem.
their catamarans and their fishing material worth Rs.2,500/- and also lost their daily income for want of fishing materials.\(^{603}\)

Accident occurred not only in the sea, but also in the land. The majority of the fishermen lived in *katcha* huts with mud walls and thatched roof. The fishermen colonies are generally situated very close to the sea shore. The huts of the fishermen are therefore, vulnerable to havoc caused by cyclone weather and heavy rains. During such emergencies the fishermen are rendered homeless. Any provision of shelter during such occasions becomes difficult in view of the lack of accommodation in the fishing villages. The need for providing food to the affected fishermen also arises because they are thrown out of their houses and due to the rough sea and weather. They are unable to go out for fishing and earn their living. The fishermen come forward with representations for food and shelter. The fisheries department is not in a position to give any emergency help on such occasions as there is neither provision nor funds placed at the disposal of the department to meet the cost of giving relief by way of running relief centres. The efforts taken to get the assistance from philanthropic associations do not meet the situation in full. The question of constructing a ‘Distress Relief Fund’ for the fishermen which is useful in such emergencies.

The sources of funds for the Distress Relief Fund was (i) a sum of Rs.2 lakhs was diverted to this fund from the collections towards 1964 cyclone relief fund (ii) annual contribution by the government to the extent of Rs.20,000/- (iii) donations from Co-operatives and the public.

\(^{603}\) G.O.Ms.No.3508, Food and Agriculture Department, dated 18th July 1958, TNA.
The Regional Assistant Director of Fisheries were authorised to draw from the fund upto a maximum of Rs.500/- on any one occasion to meet the cost for providing relief to the affected fishermen. The Director of Fisheries was authorised to draw up to a maximum of Rs.1,500/- on any occasion for similar expenditure. Cases exceeding the above sanctioned by the chairman, representing the government. Sanction was accorded to the payment of non-recurring contribution of Rs.25,000/- to the fund from state revenues. In the beginning it was known as The Fishermen Distress Fund, Madras, later it was known as the fund.

The fund was intended to provide relief to the fishermen of widespread distress caused to the people of one or more fishing hamlets on account of cyclonic storm, tidal waves, incessant rains and floods, fire accidents and any other natural causes. Fishermen subject to distress conditions arising from failure of fisheries and epidemic also got assistance from the fund.

The objectives of the fund was mainly for the purpose such as provision of food at times of emergency, supply of rice and other essential articles for distribution to the fishermen in the absence of facilities for preparing and distributing food, offering clothing when necessary, along with other helps considered necessary.

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604 G.O.Ms.No.2701, Agriculture Department, dated 20th August 1966, TNA.
605 Idem.
During rainy season and bad weather the sea became rough. At that time the sea water will enter into the fishermen huts and devastate most of the area lying near the sea shore. In Madras city there was sea erosion in north of Madras Harbour. The government sanctioned the acquisition of certain private sites north of Madras harbour at a cost of Rs.2.45 lakhs for providing alternative houses to the fishermen who had rendered homeless by sea erosion.  

The Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea become destructive in June and July when the monsoon breaks out. Incessant sea waves, choppy and high, dash against the sandy shores and knock away precious land in Tamil Nadu and Kerala. The sea also makes and lagoons. Spilling into the low lands, about 2 to 76 feet below the main sea level, the sea water creates salinity in the backwater, which damages crops and plantations. For stemming the onslaught of the sea, a comprehensive programme of anti erosion works have been undertaken including the building of sea walls and groynes on the Tamil Nadu and Kerala coastline. The fight against the onslaughts of nature should be continued to save the soil effectively from erosion.  

With regard to sea erosion in Colachel area (Kanyakumari) the Collector of Kanyakumari district represented to the Government of Madras that due to the heavy rains on 18th August, 1958 the sea inn Colachel beach grew rough threatening to cause an erosion. On 20th August 1958, there was a sudden sea erosion at the Colachel port area. Due to at sudden erosion more than seventy houses belonging to fishermen were completely damaged.

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606 G.O.Ms.No.2459, Development Department, dated 26th May 1953, TNA.
607 Madras Information, April – May, 1961, p.28.
destroyed. It was also reported that one of them mechanised fishing boat presented by the Government to the Kanyakumari District Fishermen’s Federation, lying at anchor there, was swept away by the surging waves and damaged completely. Parts of the wrecked boat were recovered from the Kottilpad sea coast, a few miles away after two days when the sea calmed down.\textsuperscript{608} On receipt of information all precautionary steps were made to avoid any calamity. Timely warning had been given and under the direction of the Collector, the Revenue Officer and the Tahsildar, had personally been to the spot and arranged the people in the low-lying places to reach places of safety. The huts built by Kadjan leaves situated near the beach area were not permanent structures. During the night the waves entered some of the huts, pulling down the kadjan walls of some houses and throwing sands into the huts. Two persons had lost their nets. There was no loss of life. One bablo boat belonging to the Fishermen’s Federation and another country boat were smashed by the waves. The engine of the bablo boat was saved. An amount of Rs.200/- was sanctioned to the persons whose houses were affected and for the persons who lost their nets in Colachal, Kottilpad, Kadiaptnam and Muttom area.\textsuperscript{609}

With a view to avoid sea erosion, during the year 1964-65 the government sanctioned the continuance of the scheme for planting of Casuarina in Kovalam village in Kanyakumari district as a wind break. Sri. Jeyadev, the chief conservator of Forests, Madras sent a proposal to the Secretary of Government, Agriculture Department, Government of Madras

\textsuperscript{608} Lr. RC.No.15935/58, dated 15\textsuperscript{th} September 1958 of Collector of Kanyakumari District.

\textsuperscript{609} G.O.Ms.No.1324, Food and Agriculture Department, dated 20\textsuperscript{th} March, 1959, TNA.
to take up four more acres (two acres in Kovalam–Chenbagemaramanputthenturai) road and two acres in Kovalam during 1966-67 under this scheme. The Chief Conservator of Forests had stated in his proposal that the work proposed in Kovalam-Chenbagemaramanputthenturai road for plantation of casuarina would be done only after the sand dunes were removed on either side of the road by the public works department. He even requested the Government to sanction the continuance of the scheme at a cost of Rs.3,500/- for raising the plantation over four acres.\textsuperscript{610} The purpose of carrying out the work was for raising wind belt and for estabilisation of the soil with a view to avoid havoc caused by sand dunes. The government sanctioned Rs.3,500/- towards a forestation work.\textsuperscript{611}

In 1973-74, the government also sanctioned Rs.7,600/- for planning casuarinas in 4.00 hectares and maintenance of the older casuarinas plots in Kovalam village in Kanyakumari district. The scheme was extended to 2.4 hectares during 1974-75. The object of the scheme is to raise wind belts of casuarinas and to plant-up the intervening space with palmyra and Acacia planifrons to arrest and stabilise the shifting sands. A sum of Rs.400/- will be required for raising plantation over 2.4 hectares and $1,100/- for maintaining the older plantation, on a whole a total sum of Rs.5,200/- is required for implementing this scheme.\textsuperscript{612}

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textsuperscript{610} Lr.RC.No.H9, 11696-43-65, dated 13\textsuperscript{th} October 1966, of Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras.
  \item \textsuperscript{611} G.O.Ms.No.3574, Agriculture Department, dated 8\textsuperscript{th} November, 1966, TNA.
  \item \textsuperscript{612} G.O.Ms.No.839, Forests and Fisheries Department, dated 12\textsuperscript{th} November 1974, TNA.
\end{itemize}
Loss of nylon net was the common problem met out by the fishermen. Santiagu Fernando S/o Esthavu Fernando of Tuticorin lost nylon nets costing Rs.2,200/- on 1st October, 1965, in the Bay of Bengal, south of Tuticorin. In addition to the loss of nets, the vallam of the fishermen had been damaged to an extent of Rs.200/- and that the lost nylon nets were fabricated out of the nylon twine supplied by the Tuticorin Fishermen Co-operative Society under the Import Licence Scheme. The Assistant Director of Fisheries, Tuticorin enquired into the above loss recommended the sanction of a loan of Rs.500/- and a subsidy of Rs.500/- to the fishermen to recoup the loss sustained by him. The government accepted the recommendation of the Director of Fisheries, A Padmanabhan, and accepted the recommendation of the Director of Fisheries and sanctioned an expenditure of Rs.500/- for payment of Rs.250/- as loan and Rs.250/- in the form of synthetic twine by the Director of Fisheries, Tuticorin. The government also directed that the loan portion was recovered in 30 monthly installments over a period of three years.613

On 4th October, 1965, Soosai Viyagulam Fernando a fishermen of Ovari village, Tirunelveli district, lost four nylon nets costing approximately Rs.800/- while fishing in the sea, i.e. collapsed in the rock under the sea. The affected fishermen Soosai Viyagulam Fernando had represented on 13th October, 1965 to the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Tuticorin, and explained the difficulties caused due to the loss of his 4 nylon bottom set nets and requested for relief from the department so as to enable him to fabricate nets and eke out his livelihood. The Assistant Director of Fisheries, Tuticorin had personally enquired into the petition and recommended the

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613 G.O.Ms.No.2633, Agriculture Department, dated 16th August 1966, TNA.
sanction of Rs.150/- as loan and Rs.100/- as subsidy to the affected fishermen.

Though several relief measures were undertaken promptly by the department to alleviate the distress among the fishermen caused by floods, famine and cyclone by supply of yarn and sail cloths, grant for repairing fishing boats and sale of catamarans as subsidised rates.

The fishing industry is a seasonal one and the yield changes from time to time according to the nature of the climate. The failure of seasonal fishing caused them considerable hardships and the government took some alternative measures to save the people from starvation and agony. But the fishermen borrowed money from the money-lenders on high interests, even though they got loan from the government. Hence the plight of the fishermen came to the lowest level. During the lean season, there is no income from the sea and they do not know the other alternative work. Even though saving-cum-relief schemes for marine fishermen is in vogue, the amount of Rs.1,080/- is net enough to spend during the lean season. Hence government helps them by providing food material, cloth and other essential commodities for their subsistence in the time of lean season. The Secretary, Periyathalai village committee, Tirunelveli district (Registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860) submitted a representation to the K.Kamaraj, the then Chief Minister of the Government of Madras and M.Bakthavatchalam, minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Government of Madras, that there were about 2,500 fishermen residing within the Periyathalai Panchayat area. Due to failure of fishing season in this village during November 1955 to April 1956, the fishermen and their families were
affected largely. He requested that if immediate relief measures were not taken up, the situation would be worsened. The period between May 1956 and October 1956 was an off season due to rough sea caused by the presence of the chain of coral reef in this region.

The Director of Fisheries prayed the government to taken up the cause of the proper fishermen of this village for immediate relief. To avert such situations in future and to give alternative employment to the fishermen and their family during the off season periods in this village, cottage industries like manufacturing of matches extra were recommended to be established on a long term basis.\(^\text{614}\)

The matter was referred to the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Tuticorin, for enquiry and report to the government. He reported that it was a fact that the failure of the fishing season had seriously affected the living of the fishermen who worked under the owners of boat and net. They had to depend on day-to-day earnings for their living and so, it was reported that during the off seasons, they suffered badly and they had to go without food on many days. The Assistant Director of Fisheries consulted the Collector of Tirunelveli on the relief measures that could be taken. The Collector expressed that he had no provision for this contingency. Hence the Additional Director of Industries and Commerce requested that a sum of Rs.2,000/- might be sanctioned by the government for giving subsidy to the fishermen as wages which would keep down the cost of the nets and baskets. This was to quicken other activities.

\(^{614}\) G.O.Ms.No.1704, Agriculture Department, dated 10\(^{th}\) July 1956, TNA.
The Additional Director of Industries and Commerce had also proposed that the sum of Rs.15,000/- should be granted as loans to the Fishermen Co-operative Society at Periyathalai to enable it to purchase yarn and provide employment to the fishermen to make nets. The loan of Rs.15,000/- was sanctioned to the society by the government to be returned within a period of 6 months by remitting into the treasury the sale proceeds of the nets and baskets as and when they are realised.\(^{615}\)

Relief measures were also taken by the government to alleviate the distress among the fishermen caused by floods, famine, cyclone and sea erosion are satisfactory. The government took steps to intensify the relief measures to the affected fishermen and constitute a committee to watch as to reach the things to the affected fishermen.\(^{616}\) During the gale havoc and untoward incidents, relief measures taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu are satisfactory. During the month of stormy weather, the government should strictly warn the fishermen not to venture into the sea.

Another natural calamity called Tsunami, often misnamed a tidal wave, but in fact Tsunami is not just one wave but usually a series that have nothing to do with the ordinary tide. In the normal times in ocean, Tsunamis are only about one metre high, but as they approach shallower water and the shore they grow to heights as high as eighty five meters.

The word Tsunami is derived from Japanese word *Tsu* and *nami*, harbour waves that are generated when the ground in sea is deformed by

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\(^{615}\) *Ibid.*

\(^{616}\) G.O.Ms.No.1430, Food and Agriculture Department, dated 15\(^{th}\) April 1958, TNA.
seismic activity, vertically displacing the overlying water in the ocean. “Seismic” implies an earthquake related generation mechanism, but a Tsunami can also be caused by a non-seismic event, such as a landslide or meteorite impact. It had a wave length in excess of 1000 km within a period of one hour.617

Present Tsunami (26th December 2004.), which hit the Indian Ocean coast was generated when the ground in the sea floor abruptly deformed and vertically displaced the overlying water. The massive ocean waves trigged by an under sea water earthquake took place at Sumatra in Indonesia on December 26th 2004.618 This under sea earthquake caused destruction in the neighbouring countries like India, Sri-Lanka, Malaysia, Thailand, Maldives and Andaman and Nicobar. In India, the states Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu were affected. Nagapattinam, Chennai, Cuddalore and Kanya Kumari districts were worst affected places in Tamil Nadu. It caused huge causalities in the Tamil Nadu State. This emerged out of the tectonic earthquake with a magnitude of 8.9 ricter scale. It enters harbours without any warning or caution of their occurrence.619

Huge seismic sea waves trigged by a massive under sea earthquake that generated the total death toll stands at 2 lakh 30 thousand with nearly 40,000 missing according to figures compiled by the United Nations Organisation of Humanitarian affairs.620 Fishermen, tourist and people

618 The Indian Express, Madurai, 30th December, 2004.
619 Ibid.
living on the coast, who were unprepared for the waves that rose as high as six meters throughout the Indian Ocean and Bay of Bengal were worst affected. The death toll in India has been put at 9,710 according to Home Ministry report on January 6th 2005. Of those killed, 901 are from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, 105 from Andhra Pradesh, 170 from Kerala, 7,951 from Tamil Nadu, 583 from Pondicheery. Thus our nation experienced the greater losses both in life and property. 621

Tsunami resulted in huge causalities and heavy losses to economic property of Tamil Nadu. Both fishing and agriculture were badly affected in coastal Tamil Nadu due to Tsunami. Thus this Sunday will be known as black Sunday or boxing sunday in the contemporary history. 622

This Tsunami struck most of the 1000 km long coast in Tamil Nadu. It is believed that more than 20,000 killed, people injuring more than 80,000 and rendered 1,00,000 homeless and greater loss to the property concerned. However estimated the official counts in Tamil Nadu were 7,951 of which 6,038 were from Nagapattinam district alone. Kanya Kumari District recorded 821 deaths, Cuddalore 612, Chennai 206 and Kancheepuram 128. Eight other Districts account for the rest of the death.

Around 9.00 a.m. out of the calm blue sea, tiny wanes inched towards the shores. Catamarans, fiberglass boats with outboard motors cracked country boats, pushcarts and motorbikes lay mangled. Cars parked on the service lane of the beach were lifted by the surging waters and

621 Ibid.
thrown around. At Chennai harbour the Tsunami deposited tones of silt and rocked three cargo vessels. Two ships, one ferrying about 750 cars and another loaded with granite were damaged. The chairman of Chennai port trust estimated the loss at the Chennai port, including the damage to its facilities and vessels at Rs.10 crores. So Marina was full of tales of sorrow. Loved ones who were not traced, children and the aged were lost. It is unforgettable in our history.\textsuperscript{623}

Nagapattinam was worst affected by Tsunami havoc. The ferocity of the waves that hit Nagapattinam was unimaginable. The waves lifted up mechanized trawlers spun them around and dumped them on the railway track there. About 50 trawler suffered damaged. Elsewhere on the coast in the district bodies were found ashore and most of them were those of children and women especially fisher-folk and tourists. The church of Our Lady of Health at Velankanni a famous pilgrim centre was worst affected and hundreds of pilgrims were on the beach of Velankanni slammed in when the Tsunami took place. Most of them were swept away by the waves. Many of the pilgrims had come from Kerala, Goa and Karnataka.\textsuperscript{624}

Cuddalore district, islands such as Chinnavaikaal, MGR Thittu and Killai were cut off from the mainland by the waves. 23 villages were marooned. More than 612 persons were killed.\textsuperscript{625}

In Kanyakumari district hundreds of pilgrims stood on the hillock where the Vivekananda Rock Memorial stands. As waves swirled

\textsuperscript{624} \textit{Ibid.}, No.4, 11\textsuperscript{th} February 2005.
\textsuperscript{625} \textit{The Hindu}, Chennai, January 2005.
around the rock IAF helicopters winched several pilgrims to safety. In Kanyakumari district the Colachel region was adversely affected by Tsunami. More than 540 persons lost their lives, most of them belong to fisherfolk, out of the 540 persons 270 were children. Household utensils, tattered clothes, broken furniture and battered catamarans were strewn all over the coastaline.\textsuperscript{626}

Apart from Colachel, the fishing villages devastated by the Tsunami in Kanyakumari district are Kodimanai, Simon Colony, Kottilpadu, Kadiyapattinam, Muttom, Azhikal and Manakudi. These are some data giving details of the losses to fishing equipment in Kanya Kumari district were 7,000 mechanised boats, 3,000 catamarans, 300 vallams, 200 motorised boats and 7,000 fishing nets. NGOs and other institutions arranged several relief camps, they were provided the food, shelter and clothes. The sudden death and destruction of Tsunami disaster reflected in awe and humility in our mind on the fragility of human existence.\textsuperscript{627}

Although 90 per cent of fishermen were affected by the Tsunami and the focus is rightly on their rehabilitation and the revival of fishing operations, the damage killer waves has caused to agriculture should not be under estimated. The salt industry particularly in area such as Vedaranyam was badly affected.\textsuperscript{628}

The fall in marine catch will hit the export of marine products, especially shrimps. So thousands of workers had been affected due to

\textsuperscript{626} \textit{The Hindu}, Thiruvananthapuram, 31\textsuperscript{st} December 2004.
\textsuperscript{627} \textit{Ibid.},
\textsuperscript{628} \textit{The Indian Express}, 2\textsuperscript{nd} January, 2005.
unemployment. Approximately 5,31,900 fish workers in 591 coastal villages face unemployment and around 200.00 fish process workers and allied industry workers face similar unemployment. Since the whole sector is unorganised with temporary workers marginal workers and seasonal workers. Health and sanitation were also affected. Education of children and adolescent also face a setback due to imminent poverty. This incident was similar to the past natural calamities like earthquake, which hit Maharashtra and Gujarat, floods in Orissa and Bihar.\textsuperscript{629}

The Government of Tamil Nadu has played a major role in providing relief and rehabilitation. The first phase saw a massive search rescue and excavation operation, with the organisation of relief camps and the burial of the dead. Tamil Nadu Government announced for the relief package to those affected family will be given one dothi, one sari, two bed sheets, 60 kms of rice, 3 liters of kerosene and Rs.1000/- in cash to by condiments, Rs.1000/- to purchase utensils and Rs.2000/- for putting up a hit. The package for each family will lost about Rs.5000/-.\textsuperscript{630} Tamil Nadu Government requested the Central Government for an assistance of Rs.4,800/- crores and 54,000 tones of rice. For the rehabilitation programme for fishing families, it has asked the center for another Rs.750 crores. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has requested a special provision of Rs.500 crores to construct a sea wall along 1000 km coastline from Chennai to Kanya Kumari. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister told the Centre and State Governments had to pay one lakh to each family of the

\textsuperscript{629} www.mangabay.com.
\textsuperscript{630} Interview with Thiru. F.Amal Raj, Fisherman, Kotilpadu, on 30\textsuperscript{th} December 2004.
affected by the Tsunami. Again Tamil Nadu Government has decided to adopt all children orphanages by this purpose immediately.\footnote{Frontline, Vol.22, No.4, 11\textsuperscript{th} February 2005.}

In Cuddalore the government has undertaken the temporary shelter programme with the assistance of a number of aid agencies from different part of the country.\footnote{Interview with Thiru. Babu, Velankanni, on 1\textsuperscript{st} January 2005.} The most visible aiming the organisations working in the District is the Rishikesh based India foundation, run by Swami Chidanand Saraswathi. The foundation has adopted Devanampattinam an launcher several ameliorative schemes under project hope. Among the notable followers of this foundation is the Hindi film actor Vivek Oberoi who rushed to the aid of the affected people, within few days of the Tsunami attack.\footnote{The Hindu, Chennai, January 2005.} He camped at Devanampattinam for a week and helped Swami Chidanand Saraswathi project. At Devanampattinam, the foundation has been undertaking relief and rehabilitation work in co-ordination with the State Government. Apart from providing 200 temporary shelters project hope has extended assistance to the victims by providing medical aid, utensils, new cloths and other essentials. It has planed to help the orphan children of Devanampattinam and other affected areas besides adopting some children.\footnote{Idem.}

**Protective Measures**

India has a long coastline one has to safeguard it from such an attack. Tsunami working system have to be installed, covering the entire
coastline and the coast factor has to be by passed considering the human lives involved.

As mangrove forests near seashore have saved many villages the State Government along the NGO should concentrate on raising such plantations along the entire coast.

Rehabilitations of affected families by providing necessary infrastructure has to be given priority and completed within a short span of time. Another important task is to depute counseling experts to these areas to make the people mentally prepared to face the future. Donations received should be properly utilised with almost care with the help of independent observe.

The government also restricted the people to construct the houses within the range of 500 meters from the sea and the government plans to make this region as tourist parts. This was objected by the fishermen because it affected their day today fishing jobs. Such as the trying of fishing nets free movement of their equipment and marketing etc are also essential.

Thus the impact of natural disasters on the economic life of the coastal people had its own echo. The equipments necessary for the fishing were damaged. The houses in which the fishermen were living had collapsed. Socially, family as an institution had lost its significance. children became orphans. Women became widow’s, husband’s lost their wife’s. In spite of all these havocs caused due to the material and social well-being of human life. The people from whole part of the country