

Post Tsunami Interventions in India completed in record time

Natural disaster assistance

One of the greatest challenges for the ICA Asia-Pacific (ICA AP) in 2005 was to face the destruction caused by the Tsunami in India, Indonesia and Sri Lanka.

The ICA at global, regional (Asia-Pacific) level along with partner organisations sought, with the generous help of donations from members, to address the needs of co-operatives affected by the tsunami.

ICA AP in collaboration with the national apex co-operative organisations in India, Indonesia and Sri Lanka carried out an in-depth study of the damages caused by tsunami and provided technical support in designing co-operative reconstruction and empowerment projects in India (co-operatives in Cuddalore and Vellupuram districts in Tamil Nadu and Nicobar in Andaman Nicobar Islands with the financial support

Lanka (co-operatives in Southern Province with the financial support of B'nai Brit World Centre and the American Jewish Committee through NISPED, Israel).

The one year project in India started in July 2005 after ascertaining the needs of the target co-operatives in Tamil Nadu (need assessment jointly carried out by Anil Singh, ICA Domus Trust, Dr Puyalvannan, Principal, ICM, Chennai under the leadership of Dr Kannan, Registrar of Co-operatives, Govt. of Tamil Nadu) and Nicobar Island (as advised by NCDC). The focus was on reconstruction of co-operative physical infrastructure so as to bring back the delivery of normal services of the identified seven co-operatives for their more than 15,000 affected members.

- Vasanthayarpalayam Primary Agriculture Co-operative Bank (PACB)
- Vilvarayanatham PACB



- Kayalapattu PACB
- Cuddalore Cooperative Marketing Society
- Chidambaram Marketing Society
- Marakkanam Salt Workers' Cooperative Society (Vellupuram)

In Nicobar assistance included:

- Reconstruction of 500 MT capacity Godown
- Purchase of three trucks

ICA AP would like to acknowledge Co-operatives



A building which has been reconstructed using funds from Co-operatives UK and assisted by ICA and NCUI. The photo immediately above is of a notice on the building acknowledging this support.



Rajiv I.D. Mehta, second from right with representatives from assisted co-ops

of Co-operatives UK and National Co-operative Union of India), Indonesia (co-operatives in NAD Province with the financial assistance of ICA global funds raised by ICA member organisations and Co-operatives UK) and Sri

Monitoring of this assistance has been overseen by Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director ICA – AP and Rajiv I.D. Mehta, Director, ICA – AP. Six co-ops in Cuddalore and Vellupuram Districts, Tamil Nadu were assisted.

UK and NCUI, India for their very generous support of these projects as well as ICA members who contributed to the global appeal.

“ICA AP shall remain forever indebted to the international co-operative fraternity for their act of exemplary solidarity”

Rajiv I.D. Mehta,