

Construction of 94 homes for the Tsunami affected in Nagapattinam District



94 permanent dwelling units were constructed for the villagers of Periya Manikapangu, Tharangambadi taluka, Nagapattinam district. Each housing unit comprised a bed-room, a hall, kitchen and toilet plus a terrace and houses were made as pucca structures.



A community centre is also being built in one of the villages of the district. This centre would benefit not only this particular village but the surrounding villages and community too.

Times Foundation had donated 1.65 crores to Art of living Foundation to rehabilitate and construct houses for villagers of Periyamanickappangu Village.

60 houses were completed and handed over to the Tsunami survivors on August 18, 2006 amidst fanfare and enthusiasm. The balance 34 houses were handed over in September 2006.

It was heartening to note the satisfaction and pleasure on the faces of the 500-odd people who gathered around for the function. It was a salute to the spirit of TOI that the Group persevered and ventured into territory that was remote, inaccessible and had no infrastructure. The Collector was full of appreciation for the efforts put in by TOI and IAHV in establishing a quick rehabilitation process.

The Press, especially the vernacular dailies, covered the event with gusto and did a comprehensive coverage.

PRESS COVERAGE:

THE ECONOMIC TIMES - CHENNAI , SATURDAY , AUGUST 19 ,
2006



One of the houses built by International Association for Human Values (IAHV), a sister organisation of Art of Living, for tsunami-hit families at Periamannikypangu, Nagapattinam district with a donation of Rs 1.65 crore from Times Foundation. The project covered 94 houses, and a community hall. The keys were handed over to beneficiaries on Friday.

Tsunami survivors get houses in TN

(THE TIMES OF INDIA, BANGALORE, TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2006)

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Nagapattinam: Displaced survivors of 2004 tsunami at Periyamanickapangu village here burst into celebration as they received permanent shelters built by Times Foundation, a part of Times Group, and International Association for Human Values, a sister organization of Art of Living Foundation founded by Sri Sri Ravi Shankar.

A unique feature of the houses is that they have been built on the very spot where the old houses fell to tsunami. Times Foundation, in association with IAHV, has committed to build 94 houses for the families displaced by the tsunami. Of this, 60 houses, ready for occupation in all respects, were handed over on Friday.

"I've told the engineers to complete the entire construction work as soon as possible. Rest of the families will also get their houses very soon," Sri Sri Ravi Shankar assured the villagers. Each concrete house costing Rs 1.65 lakh has an area of 300 square feet. Besides a hall, each house has a bedroom and kitchen with attached bath and toilet.

**Homes for tsunami victims to be handed over today
(THE ECONOMIC TIMES - CHENNAI, FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 2006)**

Times Foundation, a part of the Times Group and International Association for Human Values (IAHV), a sister organization of Art of Living, have joined hands to help families at a tsunami-affected village near Nagapattinam. IAHV is building 94 houses at Periamannikyapangu for families whose homes were destroyed by the December 2004 tsunami. The project has been funded by Times Foundation. About 60 houses have already been constructed, AOL said.

On Friday, 18 August, Sri Sri Ravi Shankar would hand over keys to these families at a function organised at the village. He would also hold discussions with Mr Palanimanickam, Union Minister of State for Finance, Mr Vijayan, MP, Mr Tenkasi Jawahar, Nagapattinam district collector. Times Foundation has committed Rs 1.65 crore for the project (Rs 1.65 lakh a house). "The initial plan was to build 100 houses. However, there was a need for only 94 houses. The remaining amount would be used to build community centre," an AOL spokesperson said. IAHV worked closely with the local panchayat and district collector office to execute the project.

What is unique about this project is that it has not created a new housing layout. Instead, concrete, houses, each about 300 sqft, have been built on the spot where the victims had their houses. "This is to ensure that the beneficiaries don't feel a sense of displacement," Mr Josph Enok, IAHV coordinator said.

THE MUMBAI MIRROR, SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2006



Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, founder of Art of Living, inaugurated permanent houses built for Tsunami survivors at Pariyamanickapangu village in Nagapattinam district in Tamil Nadu on Friday. Under the Rs 1.65 crore project funded by Times Foundation, and implemented by International Association for Human Values - a sister organisation of Art of Living - 94 houses are being constructed. Sixty of them, which are ready for occupation, were handed over to the beneficiaries at the Function.