ASSESSMENT OF THE DEGREE OF PUBLIC AWARENESS ON TSUNAMIS GALLE DISTRICT, SRI LANKA

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Research Work supervised
By
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Declaration

I certify that this dissertation does not incorporate without acknowledgement any material previously submitted for a Degree or Diploma in any university and to the best my knowledge and belief it does not contain any material previously published or written or orally communicated by another person except where due reference is made in the text.

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Signature of the candidate

To the best of my knowledge the above particulars are correct

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Dr. Saman Samarawickrama

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Mr. H Rathnasooriya

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Abstract

Tsunami is one of the most devastated coastal hazard, which may perhaps yields serious damages to both human lives and properties in affected islands like Sri Lanka. As an island, Sri Lanka has also become a Tsunami prone risk zone as frequent earthquakes reported in Java Sumathra region.

Knowledge and the awareness on such coastal hazards of the community is a vital facts, which results is minimizing its adverse effects. Developing awareness processess and effective communication systems will definitely assist in the designing of hazards maps and evacuation plans.

26th December 2004 Tsunami has hit the Sri Lankan coastal regions creating many lives losses and property damages as a result of lack of previous experience in similar typed hazard.

Focusing the assessment of public awareness and subsequent responsiveness on Tsunami, the study was planned to evaluate degree of awareness in the general public on Tsunami responsiveness and counter measures to be adopted. The survey was carried out in two stages as pre and post second anniversary of 26th December 2004 Tsunami event. At the survey, 1200 sample was selected based on geographical representations of affected Grama Niladhari Divisions. School community and the general public are substantially encountered at the survey. A questionnaire was used to collect data from the sample and informal discussions were conducted to collect additional information. The survey was conducted by a team comprising of Engineers, Sociologist etc. The data collected was analyzed and results are presented in the report. Media effect, communication gaps, reliability of early warning systems, public responsiveness, suggested countermeasures are the critical outcomes of the study which needs to address at policy level.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATION

ABBREVIATION	EXPANTION
BOI	Board of Investment, Sri Lanka
Cm	Centimeter
CTEC	Community Tsunami Early Warning Center
2D	Two Dimensional
3D	Three Dimensional
DS	Divisional Secretary
DSD	Divisional Secretariat Division
EA	Engineering Assistant
GN	Grama Niladhari
GND	Grama Niladhari Division
HH	House Hold
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
IOTWS	Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System
Km	Kilometer
Km/h	Kilometer per Hour
LHI	Lanka Hydraulic Institute
m	Meter
mm	Millimeter
m/sec	meters per second
Max	Maximum
Min	Minimum
M	Magnitude of Tsunami
M.Eng.	Master of Engineering
NARA	National Aquatic Research Agency
NWSDB	National Water Supply and Drainage Board
PPS	Population proportionate to size
S	Second
Tv	Television
GNDD	Grama Niladhari Divisions

SURVEY TEAM

NAME	DESIGNATION	ORGANISATION
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