

IMPACT OF TSUNAMI ON LABOUR MARKET

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Introduction:

A massive earth quake on December 26,2004 struck on the western coast of Indonesia and has triggered huge waves, swept across the Indian Ocean and causing devastation in the coastal region of Sri Lanka. The casualties of the tsunami in Ampara were very high. People of all cohorts in the coastal region of Ampara district were affected. More than 10,000 human lives have lost and thousands of survivors lost their wives or husbands, children, relatives and million of rupees worth properties were destroyed by the tsunami.

The impact of tsunami on society, economy and the cultural life of the people subjected to the tsunami is very high. Tsunami disaster, postwar tsunami rehabilitation and livelihood activities by government and non government agencies have brought about socio economical issues of different dimension of shape and nature in the tsunami affected area. Increasing prices of commodities, shortage of food and medicine, higher demand for housing materials, increasing prices of land for settlement are some of the issues identified in the tsunami affected region of Ampara district.

So in this study however mainly focuses on the impact of tsunami on labour market activities of the region. Indeed, tsunami has contributed in many ways to several issues related to the labour market activities. Consequently, agricultural labour market and construction sector of labour markets are seriously affected by tsunami tragedy. General Demand for labour increased due to accelerated rehabilitation works and the excess demand for labourers contributed to higher increase in wage rate.

So in this study the researcher aims to find the answers to the question 'how and to what extent the tsunami disaster contributed towards the wage increase in the labour market in the coastal region of Ampara district. Major objective of the study is to analyse the role of tsunami in wage increase of labour market. Specific objectives such as identifying the socio economical impacts of tsunami on wage increases and measures for mitigating the affects.

General conclusion of the study will be research on the Data and information collected from primary and secondary sources and from reliable sources of randomly selected individual labourers, government and non governmental institution.

Interviews, direct observation, target group discussion also will be used for collecting information.

It is apparent that the tsunami has played a significant role in the labour market operation and wage determination. Information with evident proofs that the factor prices increased by 200-300% in each sector of labour market in recent years. There is a need to identify proper measures to mitigate labour market activities to avoid heavier impacts on society.

Key words:

impact of tsunami, labour market, wage increases, impact of tsunami on labour market

