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When a group of like-minded individuals gathered to support those affected by the Gujarat Earthquake in 2001, little did they imagine that they would witness the devastation caused by the earthquake and the suffering of the people in its immediate aftermath, followed by the long-term consequences of rebuilding homes, vocations and schools. The devastation caused in communities that were already underprivileged emphasised the need for emphatic organised support. The vision of Bhoomika was born out of this experience.

VISION

Disasters have devastating impacts, traumatising and debilitating lives. We believe that response to disasters is not just about immediate relief but a humanitarian response to the affected that looks beyond immediate suffering. It is about rehabilitation through their vocation, their place of dwelling, the rebuilding of schools, nurturing of the children in the aftermath of the disaster. We aim to rebuild lives and livelihoods.

MISSION

To work with underprivileged communities and individuals:

- At times of natural disasters by responding through the three phases of Rescue, Relief and Rehabilitation
- In the field of education by, supporting children's education through better infrastructure and qualitative intervention with an aim to make it relevant, to equip them with a mind to enquire, to be creative, sensitive to environment and people, helping preserve the planet.

SHARING OUR THOUGHTS

Some years are tough when natural calamities abound. Both the Gaja cyclone in Tamil Nadu and the rains in Kerala in the year 2018, brought the southern part of India to the centre stage.

It was devastating for Kerala as torrential rains and floods paralysed the state and caused immense misery to the people. The impact of this natural disaster in the state was felt by one sixth of the population of Kerala. The rains that started in July 2018 and lasted well into August 2018 reportedly caused a damage of over Rs 400,000 Crores.

As rains stopped and flights resumed, we were one of the first to land in the military airport in Cochin to begin our assessment and to see how we could support. As relief poured in from all over the Country and from across borders, Bhoomika looked out for the remote areas that generally fall between the cracks. We identified tribal communities living up the hills in Wayanad district and supported 5000 families with elaborate ration kits. Our teams had to negotiate tough terrains to deliver the relief material and we are immensely grateful to the local authorities who helped us in the process of enumeration and relief delivery.

Within Tamil Nadu, on November 16th, Cyclone Gaja made its landfall with wind speed of 120 – 140 kph, leaving behind a huge trail of destruction in the districts of Nagapattinam, Cuddalore, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Pudukottai, Dindigul, Trichy, Karur, Sivagangai, Ramnad, and Karaikal in the Union territory of Pondicherry. In a few hours it wreaked havoc by uprooting trees, and blowing away the roofs of homes. Bhoomika stepped up immediately by focusing on providing temporary roofing with tarpaulins. Our teams travelled through the districts to assess both relief and rehabilitation work that we could carry out. We are very sure that given the damages, Bhoomika will continue to stay invested in the rehabilitation work well past the year.

We continued our resilient homes project and our engagement with education related activities. The damages wrought by the Gaja Cyclone and Kerala Rains in schools has given us a focus on infrastructure related rehabilitation. Rebuilding schools damaged in disasters was adopted as a critical aspect of rehabilitation by Bhoomika.

We aim to bring to life some of what we witness immediately after disasters through this report, as we chronicle the work we did throughout the year. We have been lucky to receive your support, and we want to emphasise the importance of your continued assistance in the aftermath of disasters.

DISASTER RELIEF

Gaja cyclone and the torrential rains in Kerala were the year's two most significant disasters. In these disasters, communities that were already marginalised lost power, homes, and their meagre possessions. Bhoomika's disaster relief efforts aimed to get essential items to those in need as soon as possible. One of the critical aspects about disaster relief is in being able to assess the relief materials that should be provided immediately.

Kerala Rains which lasted for a month caused damages to livelihood as people were focusing on surviving. The Gaja cyclone in a matter of few hours damaged the roofs rendering people without shelter. So the focus has been on rebuilding infrastructure.



KERALA RAINS

In August 2018, Kerala experienced one of the worst monsoons on record, with torrential rains destroying homes and businesses, killing over 450 people and displacing thousands. The floods were declared a "calamity of severe nature" by the Indian government.

As an immediate response to the disaster Bhoomika started helping out with the rescue phase as several thousands were stranded in their residences with flood levels increasing.

BHOOMIKA'S DISASTER HELPLINE FOR KERALA

With the help of Malayalam-speaking volunteers, we set up a remote phone centre for rescue operations in Chennai. The centre worked with Kerala's official rescue teams. Bhoomika's expertise in setting up a helpline during the 2015 Chennai floods came in handy as Bhumika directed and helped helplines all around the world in building flawless processes.



NOTES FROM THE FIELD

"In our remote call centre for rescue operations in Chennai, the phone rings nonstop. Unmindful of who walks in, the volunteers are bent over their systems and phone. Voices speaking in Malayalam fill the room, soothing people in distress even as they tactfully collect information. A process flow has fallen in place, carefully taking down numbers and passing them on to another to call back. The lines are not kept busy.

One team is alerting officials district-wise and escalating emergencies. A team is updating data on a live sheet. One line is constantly connected to officials in Kerala. Another team is trying to call back to confirm rescues.

A 95-year-old gentleman, diabetic and without insulin from Aluva in Ernakulam, was rescued and the team heaved a sigh of relief. However, before they can rejoice, a call from a group of 10, one of whom one is pregnant, gets escalated for rescue.

Through this all, the back end churns on, planning rosters, volunteer shifts and more."

RELIEF DISTRIBUTION

Bhoomika contributed to this effort by packing and distributing flood relief kits to the tribal population in Wayanad, Kerala. Wayanad has the highest concentration of tribal population in Kerala, and this population has numerous vulnerabilities because of the marginalisation they face. We supplied 5000 kits to 5000 families in September 2018. These kits consisted of all the essentials required such as vessels, groceries, and clothing. The kits were organised and packed in Chennai and were dispatched by road to Kerala. We attempted to reach some difficult and tough terrains where many of the Tribals lived. Bhoomika's team did extensive enumeration and visited several hamlets providing the local residents living in despair with coupons to collect the kits. The kits were valued at Rs 1,37,37,000.











GAJA CYCLONE

On November 16th 2018, Gaja cyclone made landfall along the coast of Tamil Nadu. Power supply was cut off for more than two days. Houses collapsed, displacing many people. The cyclone wreaked havoc in the districts of Nagapattinam, Cuddalore, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Pudukottai, Dindigul, Trichy, Karur, Sivagangai, Ramnad and Karaikal in the Union Territory of Puducherry. According to government records, 45 people were killed and approximately 250,000 people were displaced from their homes on the coasts of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.

The immediate need of the people was shelter as the roofs of many houses had collapsed or had gotten blown away. Bhoomika, as part of its relief effort, put together tarpaulins and some basic necessities and reached the area. The team, with the help of local volunteers, covered several villages in Nagappatinam, Tiruvarur and Thanjavur districts.

VILLAGES COVERED

- 1. Kondan Kadu
- 2. Sappani Kadu
- 3. Vembudevan Kadu
- 4. Panjanadhikulam
- 5. Adanthagkanni Street
- 6. Avadiyan Kadu
- 7. Koolayadevan Kadu

- 8. Perumaikoon Kadu
- 9. Ganapathydevan Kadu
- 10. Kalyanan Cheri
- 11. Thagattur Main
- 12. Nemam South
- 13. Nemam North
- 14. Ezhilur

- 15. Thennadar
- 16. Mettupalayam
- 17. Karuppampulam
- 18. Vettukulam
- 19. Thesingurajapuram
- 20. Brinjumulai (Thalaigayaru)



STORIES FROM THE FIELD

"It started with a whistle," said Maniammai, a resident of Ayakkaranpulam [Nagapattinam]. "It raged through the night and I felt it going around as the noise became louder. First, my son and I thought we would stay inside the house as we had a concrete house with a tiled roof. Then the tiles started falling and when there was a lull, we rushed to a cyclone shelter nearby. I did not expect to survive the night as we huddled together petrified."

Living close to the coast, this was what the people experienced as thatched roofs flew away, tiles crashed, roof sheets collapsed, electric poles fell and trees swayed dangerously.

Rehabilitation and rebuilding what was destroyed during the Gaja cyclone was a mighty task but Bhoomika has been focusing on this relentlessly and with a single-minded focus.

In November 2018, we distributed Gaja cyclone relief materials to **800 families** in Nagapattinam and Thiruvarur districts. Tarps, bedsheets, mats, candles, and mosquito coils were among the items provided.

In December 2018, grocery items were distributed as relief materials to flood-affected residents of Omavayal village [Thanjavur], benefitting a total of **63 families**.

In December 2018, residents of villages in Pudukkottai received relief materials in the form of bedsheets, towels, nighties, sarees, dhotis, and lungis, benefitting a total of **726 families**.





NOTES FROM THE FIELD

"Our team prioritises the smaller, often less noticed hamlets such as Avadaikonkaadu, Kozhayadevankaadu, Perumaikonkadu, and Ganapathi Thevarkaadu in Panchanathikulam panchayat. A completely flattened hut is difficult to live in, but the residents choose to stay near it because they are afraid of missing the official assessor and losing any compensation they may receive. In this case, they sleep under the tarpaulin on the damaged floor.

As Team Bhoomika travelled through the districts of Nagapattinam, Thiruvarur, and Thanjavur, visiting many hamlets, the state of houses struck us the most. When we actually saw the situation, the data and statistics began to make sense."



DISASTER REHABILITATION

Bhoomika Trust believes that responding to disasters is about more than just providing relief; it is about looking beyond the immediate suffering and rehabilitating the affected. Rehabilitation is also an opportunity to provide the affected with a new reality. In the process, Bhoomika is attempting to create an aspirational and welcoming ecosystem for the affected.



BUILDING RESILIENT HOMES

Manjankaranai [Thiruvallur] is a lovely hamlet located just outside of Puzhal [Chennai]. We were saddened by the collapsed thatched roof houses and walls washed away in the rains when we first visited one of the clusters here to understand the devastation after the 2015 Chennai floods. However, when we returned later, we discovered that they were a delightful and cheerful group of families. They are a community where the people appeared to be a single large family, with happy banter and such generosity to one another. They engaged with Bhoomika warmly.

Bhoomika decided to assist them in constructing small houses with the permission of the local government. Last year, support was provided for nine such homes, with more on the way. Our young architect Tahaer Zoyab and his team at Triple O Studio chose the yellow-coloured walls to make the homes look inviting and cheerful. **Seven houses** were built and handed over in Manjankaranai village [Thiruvallur] during the 3rd phase of rehabilitation in May 2018 following the Chennai floods of 2015.





Seniyarmedu [Kanchipuram] is another such small hamlet that was adversely affected during the 2015 Chennai floods. The villagers were mostly agricultural labourers with about 21 families residing in huts in the Irula colony that were damaged during the floods. We started the first phase of the 'Resilient Homes' initiative here and the excited villagers began the process with a Bhoomi Pooja. **Twelve houses** were built and handed over to the beneficiaries at Seniyarmedu village as of July 2018.







NOTES FROM THE FIELD

"In the true Pongal spirit of the harvest festival and thanking nature, the families of Manjankaranai came together and celebrated it as a community. From creativity to action-packed games, children and women of all ages in the hamlet had a great time with the Bhoomika team! While the children let their imaginations run wild on paper to express how they see their village in the future, the women welcomed us with colourful rangolis."

Families in **Arumbakkam** village, near Poondi [Tiruvallur], also celebrated the harvest festival as a community – the women took a break from their daily routine to join the children in a variety of fun activities! Bhoomika is collaborating with one of the clusters to improve the community as a whole. Several thatched huts with mud walls were severely damaged during the 2015 floods. We took on the task of providing housing assistance in order to provide some relief to those whose homes had been damaged. In the first phase of this initiative, a team of young socially conscious architects and builders provided housing assistance to **7 families**, with more on the way."

"Bhoomika continued its post-flood rehabilitation work in **Manambathy** [Kanchipuram]. Team Bhoomika has become a part of the settlement over the course of the year."

REBUILDING SCHOOLS

Working with schools to repair damages and rebuild them has been one of Bhoomika's primary focus areas following disasters. Following Gaja storm, we visited several schools that were in desperate need of repair. The buildings had cracks, the flooring was coarse with the cement covering having long since vanished, the staircases were precariously broken, and the furniture was mostly ruined. There were a lot of aided schools in tile roofed buildings, but most of them were now broken. As a result, we stepped in to renovate and upgrade several of them.

In April 2018, repair and renovation work was completed in **Chennai Primary School, Vanniya Teynampet**, benefitting a total of **297 children**. Steel racks were also donated for the library





Kokiladi Primary School in Thiruvarur district near Thiruthuraipoondi was one such school. This aided school functioned for 76 students. However the school building and restrooms were both destroyed, with the roof collapsing after the cyclone. There was also a half-built noon meal centre that we finished with civil work, plastering, and painting.





Valluvar Aided Primary School Vittukatti is in the Vittukatti Panchayat [Thiruvarur]. With a total of 69 students, the school had classes 1 through 5. The roof and flooring were both repaired. The shattered wooden rafters were rebuilt and the entire school was beautifully painted.





Government High School in Ezhilur Panchayat [Thiruvarur] is a school for 128 children. The building had suffered some structural damages externally. The Bhoomika team upgraded the flooring, repaired the ceiling and the entire building, and repaired and painted compound walls.





Panchayat Union Primary School Ezhilur [Thiruvarur] is a school that educates 124 children. The entire tiled roof of the school had blown away. The Bhoomika team set out to redo the flooring and roof and windows. The girls and boys toilets were also redone with fresh tiling and provision of new water tanks. The entire school was painted brightly as well



NOTES FROM THE FIELD

"Team Bhoomika met Sathyaraj, Balachander, Karl Marx, Gopinath, Sudhakar and Rajesh - 6 youngsters of Ezhilur village [Thiruvarur] when we went to distribute tarpaulins in affected villages in the aftermath of Gaja cyclone. We invited them to our office here, gave them an orientation, gave them a few exposure visits, did a brainstorming session with them as they visualised an idyllic Ezhilur village for their families with better school infrastructure, sanitation and water and newer ideas for their livelihood. Today they are bringing together their village as a group to commence the repairs of the school."





LIVELIHOOD RESTORATION

Bhoomika has been assisting those who have lost their jobs due to natural disasters in regaining employment. This year's focus was on aiding those who had lost their livelihoods as a result of the floods in Tamil Nadu and Kerala.



Ms Sumathi, who lost her **sewing machine** in the floods, received a sewing machine in August 2018



Ms Rajakumari is from Trichy and her cart was destroyed in the Gaja cyclone. In December 2018, we replaced it by donating **a brand new cart** to her



A sewing machine was also donated to Ms Kalaiyarasi of Mettupalayam village [Coimbatore], who was a victim of the Gaja cyclone in December 2018



We donated a total of **10 cows** with fodder for a month and a year's insurance to **10 individuals** who lost their cattle during the Kerala rains through the 'Donate a Cow Project' at Wayanad in October 2018

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

A major source of livelihood in Wayanad is dairy farming. The torrential rains and consequent devastation in Kerala in the monsoon season saw some 200 plus cattle being washed away in Wayanad. 'Donate A Cow' program was initiated at Wayanad by an agriculture officer and supported by the Collectorate to provide good quality cows to dairy farmers who had lost their cattle during the floods and landslides. With the generous support of some of our donors, Bhoomika Trust has helped restore the livelihood of dairy farmers by providing them with good quality cows and three bags of cattle feed each through the 'Donate A Cow' program.

EDUCATE & EMPOWER

Bhoomika's educational mission entails addressing infrastructure gaps and providing material support, scholarships to deserving students, and qualitative intervention to help students perform better. We initiated and finished a number of projects this year. Bhoomika's vision includes a long-term program to provide infrastructure for schools, libraries, and housing.



In response to a request from the school, we donated two locker cupboards for teachers at Perumbakkam High School in April 2018, benefitting **17 teachers**





In October 2018, Perumbakkam High School's campus was painted with the help of PayPal and Chennai Volunteers and library books were distributed with the support of WNS Cares Foundation benefitting **600 children**

SUMMER CAMP 2018

From May 2nd to May 12th 2018, a 10-day Summer Camp was held at the Police Boys & Girls Club in Kulli Thottam. Session topics included waste management, self-defence basics, storytime and conversational English, basic etiquette, group discussion and resume preparation, dance, dental camp, making a healthy snack (cooking without fire), indoor games, art and craft, and so on. Chess, carrom, *pallankuzhi*, drawing, elocution, and crafts competitions were also held. On the final day, police officials handed out medals and certificates to the participants. The camp was attended by **35 children**.



OTHER EFFORTS IN EDUCATION



In June 2018, stationery was distributed to **421 children** in government schools in Cuddalore district



In October 2018, we interacted with **35** education support scholars and provided them with career guidance







In March 2019, a RO Filter machine, a projector, and 6 ceiling fans were donated to Panchayat Union Middle School, Omavayal [Thanjavur], benefitting **56 students**



In December 2018, we donated science lab equipment to the Government Higher Secondary School in Avvaiyarkuppam village [Villupuram], benefitting **211 children**



A total of Rs. 20,38,800 in scholarships was awarded to **95 students**

HEARTWARMING FEEDBACK

"To BHOOMIKA TRUST

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are (sic) much delighted to inform you that our school has received the best award for Clean School by the SWACHH BHARAT MISSION last week. We certainly believe that we could achieve this only because of your generous contribution to our school.

We thank you sir, for your beautiful painting, flooring for six classrooms with fans and lights. With your painting, our school gives a wonderful appearance.

With your support, our students are surely (sic) be benefited and they will bring more laurels to the school. There is no doubt that the students will enrich their knowledge and they will have a bright future.

Signed (Ms. Kamakshi) HM Paiyanoor Government High School



As part of our disaster rehabilitation project after the Chennai floods, we redid the damaged flooring, painted the school, and provided fans and lights for the school in Paiyanoor, where Ms. Kamakshi is the HM.

OTHER ACTIVITIES



At the request of the community's women, we held a general medical camp in Manjankaranai village [Thiruvallur] in July 2018, and **94 people** were served



In August 2018, Bhoomika Trust hosted a women's group meeting in Perumbakkam to discuss job opportunities. **55 women** took part in the event



In September 2018, we built **8** rainwater harvesting pits in Mylapore [Chennai] with the technical assistance of Mr Sekar Raghavan of Akash Ganga Trust



In February 2019, high efficiency cookstoves that works on all solid biomass fuels such as wood, dry dung, crop waste, coconut waste, bamboo etc were donated to the villagers of Ezhilur village [Thiruvarur], benefitting a total of **100 families**



Slippers were distributed to women and children from the community in Seniyarmedu village [Kanchipuram]. This distribution, which took place in October 2018, benefitted a total of **55 people**

OUR GRATITUDE

We are sincerely grateful for the trust that philanthropic people, Foundations, and corporate organisations have placed in us. We appreciate their continuous assistance. We can only conduct the relief and rehabilitative work we do because you believe in us. Especially in this trying year, when the states of Tamil Nadu and Kerala really needed the help and support, our contributors and volunteers have risen magnificently to the occasion, and this enabled us to contribute to the rebuilding and rehabilitation efforts.

We express our heartfelt gratitude to all of those who have continued to volunteer with us over the years as well as those who have joined us this year. Everything we do is possible because of you, and our efforts are more meaningful because of your empathy.

OUR TEAM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jayendra Panchapakesan Sudha Panchapakesan Aruna Subramaniam Rinku Mecheri Bombay Jayashri

COUNCIL OF ADVISORS

Latha Subramaniam B. Ramakrishnan Pravin Shekar Geetha Rajagopal Raju Rajagopal Usha Sarathy

BHOOMIKA TEAM

Murali Vedachalam V Purushothaman Yesudhas Syed Mohammed Azarudeen Reegan Raj Uthamanathan

FINANCIALS

BHOOMIKA TRUST

Regd office : # 32, 1st street, Karpagam Avenue, R. A. Puram, Chennai - 600 028 nn office : Flat 3, Saravanalayam, New No.33, P.S.Sivaswamy Salai, Mylapore, Chennai - 600 004

BALANCE	SHEET AS	AT 31st MARCH, 2	019			
PARTICULARS	Sch.	As at		As at As at As at Sch. 31-03-2019 31-03-20		2018
SOURCES OF FUNDS						
(a) Capital Fund	1		5,46,08,591		6.82.38.171	
(b) Loans & Advances			-			
TOTAL			5,46,08,591		6,82,38,171	
I. APPLICATIONS OF FUNDS						
(A) Fixed Assets:(a) Gross Block(b) Less: Depreciation(c) Net Block	2	1,49,247 45,763	1,03,484	1,90,218 47,970	1,42,247	
(B) Current Assets, Loans and Advances:(a) Cash and Bank Balances(b) Other Current Assets(c) Loans and Advances	3 4	5,33,19,988 11,85,118		6,72,28,264 8,67,660		
(C)Current Liabilities and Provisions: (a) Liabilities			5,45,05,106		6,80,95,92	
Net Current Assets (B) - (C)			5,45,05,106		6,80,95.92	
TOTAL			5,46,08,591		6,82,38,17	

As per Our Report of even date For CNGSN & ASSOCIATES LLP **Chartered Accountants**

ASSOCIA

ERED ACCO

Firm Reg. No. 004915\$/\$200036

B.RAMAKRISHNAN Partner M.No.201023

Place: Chennai Date:

For BHOOMIKA TRUST

BHOOMIKA TRUST

Regd office : # 32, 1st street, Karpagam Avenue, R. A. Puram, Chennai - 600 028

Admn office : Flat 3, Saravanalayam, New No.33, P.S.Sivaswamy Salai, Mylapore, Chennai - 600 004

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INCOME AND EXPENDITURE	EOD THE VEAD	ENDED	31et MARCH 2019
INCOME AND EXPENDITIVE	PUR IMP TEAR	CHULD	O I SI INIMINO III, EU I I

PARTICULARS	Schedule No.	For the year ended 31-03-2019 In Rs.	For the year ended 31-03-2018 In Rs.
INCOME Donations received Processing Fee received Interest received from bank Interest on Income Tax Refund		2,02,72,775 7,622 38,36,374 4,990	39,98,360 5,500 48,69,512
Other Income EXPENDITURE		2,41,21,761	88,73,516
Application for Charitable Purposes Depreciation	5 2	3,77,05,579 45,763 3,77,51,341	2.88.36.309 47.969 2.88,84.278
Excess of Expenditure over Income		1,36,29,580	2,00,10,762
CARRIED TO BALANCE SHEET		1,36,29,580	2,00,10,762

As per Our Report of even date For CNGSN & ASSOCIATES LLP Chartered Accountants Firm Reg. No. 0049155/S200036

B. RAMAKRISHNAN

Partner M.No.201023 CHENNAI CHENNA





For BHOOMIKA TRUST

Place : Chennai

Date:



BHOOMIKA TRUST

Ground Floor, 'Pushpak Apartments' Jagadambal Colony 1st Street, Royapettah, Chennai 600 014 Tamil Nadu, India

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