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Kothapatnam Mandal

Vajjireddy Palem Village

General Village Description

Vajjireddypalem is a fishing village with a population of 330 adults and 100 children. The village houses were small circular huts made out of palm frond walls or mud walls with thatched roofs. The houses were arranged in a grid with a sandy walkway separating the rows of houses. The village also had a nicely decorated temple and a two-story 'cyclone' building which the villagers would use for protection during cyclones. The building seemed to be in disrepair and was not being used or maintained. Agricultural fields, none of which were owned by the villagers, surround the village. The pathways and ground surrounding the village is covered in sand.

Sanitation facilities

The yard of each house had a fenced private area where the women bathed and changed. Some of the houses had a brick structure (3ftX3ft in plan) built by the government to be used as a bathroom. However there is no toilet or running water installed. These structures were being used as a bathroom (buckets of water are carried into them) or storage sheds by the families. There were a limited amount of latrines located around the village and contained a squat toilet and cesspit located underneath the structure of the latrine.

Water supply

There were a number of bore wells with hand pumps located around the village, but not enough to adequately serve every family.

Education

The village had a primary education facility that served children up to the 5th grade.

Access to healthcare

There are no healthcare facilities in the village. A nurse practitioner visits occasionally. For health care beyond the most basic level, the villagers have to travel long distances.

Housing

The majority of the houses were circular in plan layout. The walls were mud based with sticks as reinforcing or palm fronds tied together. The roof was usually a conical thatched roof. There were a few box-like brick and concrete houses with a porch and a cantilever roof that had been built by the government. They were in various levels of completion and condition depending on how much of it was completed. Couple of houses did not have a front wall. Each house had a yard surrounded by a fence made out of palm fronds. Each yard had a cooking area where they used twigs as fuel. Most of the families also raised couple of chickens inside the yard.

Village site drainage

There was no site drainage facility nor any paved pathways. Due to this standing water is a major problem during rainy season.

Transportation

The road leading up to the village was traversable by vehicle, but unpaved and was filled with potholes.

Economic development

The only economic activity of the villagers of Vajjireddy Palem was fishing. The tsunami destroyed fishing boats and nets wiping out the villagers only means of earning income.



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Tangatur Mandal
Pasumudra Village

General Village Description

Pasumudra village people are treated as untouchables and looked down upon by the fishermen of other villages. The village consists of 450 adults and 180 children. The village is organized in a grid, but the grid is less apparent than in the other villages because the pathways separating the residences are narrower and are not straight. The pathways separating the houses are dirt paths lined with standing water. Agricultural fields, none of which were owned by the villagers, surround the village. The village had access to electricity. The village also had a small rudimentary less decorated temple and a two-story 'cyclone' building. There is a nearby higher caste village that built a new temple complex recently. That village was having a celebration at their new temple the day of our site assessment, and the untouchables were not invited.

Sanitation facilities

There was a common latrine and a few single latrines located around the village with squat toilets and a drain that drained out from the back of the enclosure. The latrines were in various states of completion and some were not being used. The effluent that drained out from the back of the enclosure was either dumped on the ground or drained into a cesspit. The cesspit was either an open or covered unlined hole. There were some uncompleted cesspits lined with 4 feet diameter concrete rings. The villagers' say that the sanitation facilities are inadequate for the whole village and they are very concerned about effluent draining out from the back of the current latrines. Fixing these facilities should be a priority.

Water supply

The current drinking water source for this village is thru water pipe lines supplied once a week. The water arrives via a 1 ½ inch PVC pipe to each house. The water supplied is sufficient to fill a 2ft by 4ft by 3 ft deep concrete tub built into the ground at each family home. This water needs to be conserved to last a week until the water is supplied again. The water connection passes through another village on the way to Pasumudra and the total amount of water gets depleted by the time it reaches this village. The drinking water supply is supplemented by a water-tanker, from which the villagers can buy water.

There are a number of dried up open wells and the water from the bore wells was contaminated by the tsunami and was salty.

Primary education

The village has primary education facility that serves children up to the 5th grade.

Access to healthcare

There are no healthcare facilities in the village. A nurse practitioner visits occasionally. For health care beyond the most basic level, the villagers have to travel long distance.

Housing

The houses are spaced closer together than what was seen in other villages. The majority of the dwellings had a rectangular layout and the walls were made out of mud and sticks or out of palm fronds tied together with a conical thatched roof. The houses had a covered porch area. There were a few box-like brick and concrete houses with a porch, which had been built by the government. They were in various levels of completion and condition depending on how much of it was completed. Each house had a yard surrounded by a fence made of palm fronds. Each yard had a cooking area where they used twigs as fuel and chickens were also being raised. The Government built most of the brick houses, but some of them were not finished.



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Village site drainage

According to the villagers, site drainage was a major problem for them for both general water usage around the bore wells and also during the rainy season. Unlike other villages observed which had sandy soils, the soil the village was located on was a hard compact soil that did not appear to receive water quickly. Standing water lined most of the walkways in the village. The villagers brought up the fact that standing water carries diseases.

The Buckingham canal was east of the village and just south of the village was a pond that connected to the canal.

Transportation

Both the colony road and the village pathways were in bad condition. The colony road was rutted and it was difficult to navigate even with a motor vehicle. The village does not have access to public transportation.

Singaraya Konda Mandal

Kranti Nagar Village

General Village Description

Kranti Nagar village is in the Singaraya Konda mandal and has an adult population of 410 and a child population of 170. The village layout is organized on a grid and is composed of nice looking masonry and concrete houses in various stages of repair. About a third of the lots were empty and covered in rubble and foundation pad was visible indicating the houses were destroyed. The village is surrounded by agricultural fields and nearby villages. The village had a primary school building, a cyclone building, and a new large water tower that had not been finished and was not working.

After walking around and talking with various villagers informally, SDRWC, the villager leaders, and myself had a meeting at a temple to discuss their needs. The meeting was ineffective, the men emphatically stated that they needed a new road and that took precedence over all other village needs. This contradicted with what I had heard while walking around informally with the villagers. The women disagreed, they believed the main issue that needed to be addressed for the village, was the inadequate water and sanitation facilities. Since the village was in disagreement, we cut the meeting short.

Sanitation facilities

There were individual family latrines, but not all families had latrines. Since village drainage was an acute problem, there is standing water during the rainy season that co-mingles with the latrine effluent creating unsanitary conditions.

Water supply

Present in the village is a large water tower in good condition, but according to the villagers, it is not being used, it is not connected to anything, and no one knows who built it. There are 15 open wells that have water, but the water is not suitable for drinking due to high salinity levels, which was caused by the tsunami. The recharge rate of the open wells is slow and therefore the water produced by the wells is not sufficient for the villagers' use. In addition, there are 5 open wells that have dried up. An unknown NGO had built a bore well in the village near the school with a hand pump, but it did not work and the NGO never returned to fix it.

Primary education

The village has primary education facility that serves children up to the 5th grade.



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Access to healthcare

The access to healthcare in the Kranti Nagar village was limited and inadequate. According to the villagers, there were no healthcare facilities in the village. Occasionally, health volunteers come to the adjacent village 2 km away. They show up randomly. The villagers have to travel 10 km to the Mandal headquarters to receive any healthcare above the bare minimum treatments.

Housing

Kranti Nagar Village is composed of brick buildings with front porches and gabled roofs with clay tile roofing or flat concrete roofs. There are a few mud huts. About a third of the houses have been destroyed. There are piles of rubble on foundations located around the village. At one of the ruins, we can see the thickness of the foundation. It is only 4 inches thick, completely inadequate to support the houses.

The reason some of the houses have been destroyed is about the third of the population of the village were Christian and as a result were ostracized by the Hindu majority. The Christian minority decided to move, and since the remaining villagers did not want to buy their houses, they tore down their own houses and carted the material to the site of their new village.

Village site drainage

During the rainy season, the sandy walkways in the village and the colony road that connects the village to the outside road floods with standing water. The villagers wanted improved village drainage to reduce the instance of flooding of the village during the monsoon season. But the villagers did not think working on the colony road was a priority.

Transportation

The colony road into the village was damaged and it is difficult for vehicles to traverse it. The village roads are in adequate shape

Pothaiahgari Village

General Village Description

Pothaiahgari village is in the Singaraya Konda Mandal. Pothaiahgari village is composed of circular mud and thatched huts and a few government brick buildings, a lot of them were not finished. The village has 800 people in 250 families. There are 140 houses, 190 bathing facilities, and 2 schools. The village has palm trees throughout, and the village has a grid layout and the ground is covered in sand.

Sanitation facilities

The villagers have individual latrines but not enough for everyone. Just over half of the families have individual latrines. The village needs additional latrines and bathing facilities for the women. Currently, most of the men go to the bathroom outside at the seashore, but the women have no place to go to the bathroom modestly. According to the villagers, this is a major problem.

Water supply

A large new water tower is present in the village. The water tower is not working because it is not hooked up to anything.

The existing wells have high salinity levels and the villagers feel the water is not drinkable. There is a new bore well with a hand-pump outside the village toward the beach. The water is potable, but the taste has changed since the tsunami according to the villagers.



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Primary education

There is only a one class room in school in the village that serves 150 children. The facility is woefully inadequate and it really hard for all the kids to get proper education in such a small place.

Access to healthcare

There are no healthcare facilities in the village. A nurse practitioner visits occasionally. For health care beyond the most basic level, the villagers have to travel somewhere else.

Housing

The majority of the dwellings had a circular layout and the walls were made out of mud and sticks or out of palm fronds tied together with a conical thatched roof. Each house had a yard surrounded by a fence made of palm fronds. Inside each yard was their cooking area where the used twigs as fuel and chickens walked around. There were a few box-like brick and concrete houses with a porch and a cantilever roof that had been built by the government. They were in various levels of completion and condition depending on how much of it was ever completed. A couple of houses did not have a front wall

Village site drainage

Drainage is a major issue brought up by the villagers. When it rains, pools of water form and standing water become present throughout the village which is a source of water bourn disease. The Buckingham canal is ¼ mile away and could receive water from a proposed village drainage system. The standing water also makes it way into the open wells and pollutes them.

Transportation

There is the lack of an adequate road that connects the village to the outside world. Currently, only a sand covered road is in place. Also, having a sand covered pathway makes it difficult to even walk. The villagers would like a paved road that could be used by autos and buses.

Economic development

World Vision has provided the fishermen with new fiberglass fishing boats. But they are not being used yet since no engines have been provided.

Ulavapadu Mandal

Jalemma Palem Village

General Village Description

Jalemma Palem is a village located in the Ulavapadu mandal. It has 250 people in the village. The village is more basic than some of the other villages that were visited. There is a thatched temple structure, and no cyclone buildings. Most of the houses are mud or thatched structures. The village is arranged along a central axis with the houses lining both side of a main wide pathway that is covered in sand. Surrounding the village are agricultural fields that do not belong to the villagers. The Buckingham canal lines the east edge of the village and separates it from the coast. The village does not have electricity. The electrical poles stop just short of the village.

The village had been at its current location for 5 years. The government forest ministry had relocated the village to its current location. There was a possibility that they may have to vacate the current village location because the villagers still did not legally possess the land. Others are claiming the land and the situation is currently in the courts. SDRWC felt the villagers would win their case.

Sanitation facilities

There were no sanitation facilities in the village. The villagers go to the bathroom in nature. The men go on the coast before they head out to fish. The women have more limited options.

Integrated Development Project for Tsunami Victims
PRAKASAM DISTRICT, ANDHRA PRADESH STATE, INDIA

APPENDIX 1



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Water supply

Some houses had bore wells with hand pumps as their water source. There are 4 or 5 bore wells in the village that provide drinking water. But not all of the families have access to this water because the wells are located in the yards of certain families who then share the water only with friends and family members. The water supply is inadequate and the villagers would need access to additional water sources.

Primary education

They did not have a school that educated their children beyond the 5th grade. The older kids currently have to travel 6 km away to the Mandal headquarters to attend school beyond the primary school. Since there was no public transport that could be used to transport the children to school, the children had to walk. The villagers said they would like a school building where they could educate their children beyond the 5th grade. They would like the school building to be large enough to hold all the kids up to the secondary level. Also the school should have running water, latrines, a play area with swings, jungle gyms, playing fields, and more than one class room. The villagers thought a new school facility could be used in the evening as place for adult education.

Access to healthcare

There is no medical facility in the village. Nurse practitioners occasionally pass through the village to provide basic healthcare. Any healthcare needs beyond the least critical; the villagers need to travel to the Mandal headquarters or to Ongole.

Housing

The village had only mud and thatched houses that was either rectangular or circular. Each house had an enclosed yard, which contained a bathing area that was enclosed by a 5-foot high barrier made of thatch and twigs. A thatch and bramble 5-foot high barrier surrounded the yards. Also, in the yard was their cooking area, some plants, and their chickens.

Village site drainage

The village has no site drainage and it floods during the rainy season.

Transportation

The villagers requested a crossing over the Buckingham canal. Currently, the fishermen find it difficult to carry their catch across the canal, which separates the village from the seashore. It becomes especially difficult to cross the canal during the rainy season. The villagers would like a bridge over the canal or culverts that the water can pass through and the road can sit on top. The colony road that leads to the village is in poor condition. It is covered in sand and vehicles have difficulty traversing it.

Economic development

The villagers of Jalemma Palem are fishermen only. When the tsunami destroyed their fishing boats and nets, the villager's only source of livelihood was wiped out.

Ankamma Palem Village

General Village Description

Ankamma Palem was the second village visited on July 2, 2005. The population of Ankamma Palem is 250 people in 32 families. The village is very similar in appearance to Jalemma Palem. There is a thatched temple structure, and no cyclone buildings. Most of the houses are mud or thatched structures. The village is arranged along a central axis with the houses lining both side of a main wide pathway that is covered in sand. Surrounding the village are agricultural fields that do not belong to the villagers. The Buckingham canal lines the east edge of the village and



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separates it from the coast.. The village does have electricity with electrical poles lining the main thoroughfare of the village. Electricity is only available in the evening after 6 pm.

Sanitation facilities

There were no sanitation or drainage facilities in the village.

Water supply

There are bore wells in the village that provide drinking water. The water is good quality but, not all of the families have access to this water since the wells are located in the yards of certain families who then share the water only with friends and family members. The water supply is inadequate and the villagers would like access to additional water sources.

Primary education

The villagers brought up that they did not have a school to educate their children beyond the 5th grade. The older kids have to travel to the Mandal headquarters to attend school beyond the primary school. There was no public transport that could be used to transport the children to school. The children had to walk. The villagers would like a school building where they could educate their children beyond the 5th grade.

Access to healthcare

There is no medical facility in the village. Nurse practitioners occasionally pass through the village to provide basic healthcare. Any healthcare needs beyond the least critical; the villagers need to travel to the Mandal headquarters or to Ongole. In the village there were at least two major medical cases that required advanced intensive medical attention and who were not receiving any medical attention. One young girl had goiters and had a swelled neck and another older girl was blind. Both girls had never seen a doctor.

Housing

Similar to the first village visited on this day, the village had only mud and thatched houses that was either rectangular or circular. Each house had an enclosed yard, which contained a bathing area that was enclosed by a 5-foot high barrier made of thatch and twigs. Also, in the yard was their cooking area, some plants, and their chickens. Some houses had bore wells with hand pumps as their water source. A thatch and bramble 5-foot high barrier surrounded the yards.

The villagers want more permanent housing. The mud and thatch houses do not weather the monsoon period very well. During the rains and wind, the thatch roofs blow away. They have been on the current village site for over 35 years and the government has never helped them. If they had better more solid housing, their self-esteem would increase allowing them to believe that the possibilities for betterment were actually possible. Their status would rise.

Village site drainage

The village has no site drainage and it floods during the rainy season.

Transportation

Similar to the first village visited, the villagers requested a crossing over the Buckingham canal. Currently, the fishermen find it difficult to carry their catch across the canal, which separates the village from the seashore. It becomes especially difficult to cross the canal during the rainy season. The villagers would like a bridge over the canal or culverts that the water can pass through which the road can pass over.

Batti Somaiah Palem Village

General Village Description



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Batti Somaiah Palem village was the location of the group meeting. The village had a more permanent concrete temple that was nicely decorated

According to Srinu, the village had 86 families. The village wants a healthcare facility built that could also serve the adjacent villages.

Unlike the other village, the tsunami engulfed Batti Somaiah Palem because it is closer to the ocean than the other villages. (Visually, the village did not look damaged much.) Because of the location of the village and its likelihood of getting effected by futures tsunamis the government wants to move the village to the other side of the Buckingham canal a kilometer away. Currently, the village is located on the ocean side of the canal. Some constructions have already started in the new site of the village. A new school building has already been constructed at the new location. The High Court is trying to build new houses for them, but no water or sanitation facilities have been planned for the new village. The money being allotted for new houses will most likely be insufficient for a whole housing to be constructed properly. Since the village will be located west of the Buckingham canal and the canal will separate the village from the seashore, the village will need a crossing for vehicles over the Buckingham canal that will connect the new village to the seashore.

There were 8 women self-help groups in Batti Somaiah Palem. Each group has 10 members. Each member donates 50 rupees a month and the group pools their funds. The government then supplements the money by giving additional funds to groups based on the group's regular contributions. Then each self-help groups has a large source of funds that they can use to buy nets or other expensive items that the village may need. But since the tsunami, and the loss of boats and nets, the women have not been able to meet their obligation of donating 50 rupees a month. Therefore, the government has dropped its participation in the self-help groups and now the women no longer have access to the program. According to SDRWC, all the fishing villages have women self-help groups.

The women self-help groups would be willing to share money with EWB to help fund the village projects. And she also made the point that whatever types of projects ultimately happen in the village, the project has to benefit all members of the village community.

Sanitation facilities

The village does not have sanitation facilities.

Water supply

The village does not have any wells or other access to water located within their village

Primary education

There is a government teacher who comes to the village and teaches 40 children. Children who want to continue studying after the 5th grade have to travel 3 km to a nearby village. Currently, there is no school building in the village. The children learn under a large tree.

Access to healthcare

The village does not have a primary medical facility present, but there is a medical practitioner who will come. But they only come to the village on the practitioner's schedule and not when the villagers need them.

Housing



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The village has only mud and thatched houses that are either rectangular or circular. Each house has an enclosed yard, which contains a bathing area that is enclosed by a 5-foot high barrier made of thatch and twigs. Also, in the yard is their cooking area, some plants, and their chickens.

Village site drainage

The village has no site drainage and it floods during the rainy season.

Transportation

The colony road that connects to the village is in pretty good shape. When the village moves to the west side of the Buckingham canal, a canal crossing will be necessary. Currently, the village does not have access to mass transit. The pathways around the village are packed earth not sand.