



Newsletter

Vol. 3 December 2006

AWAW's mission: To achieve Peace through Socio-Economic development with the active participation of the War Affected Women

Ongoing programs:

1. Mobilized women's organizations to come together and form a coalition of women's organizations which is called **"The great women's organization"** **"Kantha maha Sangamaya"** which will work for the betterment of Tsunami affected women in South of Sri Lanka.



2. AWAW is very happy to inform that it has recommence its track II level dialogue process which was called the "Conflict Transformation dialogue of Sri Lanka" on the 17th of February 2006 and will be holding many

Association Of War Affected Women
✉ No 9 Riverdale Rd, Aniwatte, Kandy. Sri Lanka.
☎ +94 81 2224098 Fax + 94 81 222098
www.awawsl.org
venuwan@sltnet.lk

dialogue workshops in the coming months together with Berghof Foundation for Conflict studies.

Response to the December 26, 2004 Tsunami

“Peace building through Tsunami reconstruction”

- ◆ AWAW responded to the tsunami disaster in two general ways; one through lobbying and advocacy to have women’s voices heard in the entire rebuilding process, , the other through reconstruction of lives and livelihoods..

Initiatives.

- ❖ 1. We are happy to inform that we were able to complete our Tsunami reconstruction in Kokkilai by December 2005



The two water tanks build buy AWAW in Kokkilai

- 2. AWAW is on the process of building the women’s center in Trincomalee the situation has held the work but no sooner the situation improves the work will recommence.

- ❖ After the successful completion of "Taking 1325 to the Village" project of 25 workshops through out the country with the generous funding from Canadian **CIDA**, AWAW is currently conducting 18 workshops for "1325 for the Politicians" project, sponsored by **UNHCR**. The 1st workshop was held in Kandy for Central Province on the 4th of September 2006



1325 workshops for politicians in progress



The Chairperson delivering the Key Note address for the 1325 conference at the Jerusalem Centre, Jerusalem, Israel in July organized by Isha L'Isha (Women to Women)Haifa Feminist Centre



AWAW Chair was awarded the Humanitarian Award for 2006 in April by Inter Action of Washington DC. The nomination was done by AJWS.

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The recent escalation of fighting between the Government of Sri Lanka and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam has caused thousands of families to flee their homes in Vaharai area which was controlled by the LTTE and run for safety to the government controlled areas of Batticalo district at the same time more than four thousand people fled their homes in Serunuwara and came to Kanthalai to escape from LTTE artillery fire.

AWAW was contacted by local level women politicians of the area and was asked for immediate relief and from the gangrenous funding of AJWS we were able to distribute milk and biscuits for more than 4000 people in Batticaloa IDP camps and under garments for more than 3000 women in Kanthalai IDP camps



Women's undergarments being distributed in Kanthalai IDP camps

And milk being distributed to infants in Batticaloa camps on 29th and 30th December 2006

AWAW was also requested urgent food relief by people who were trapped in Serunuwara and dry rations were distributed for 300 families on the 14th of January 2007



Dry ration being distributed to the people of Serunuwara