# GEO-INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT

A Case Study in Akkaraipattu Municipal Area

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### The Chinese philosopher, (Laozi 500 BC) wrote

- The issue far away is easy to avoid
- The brittle is easy to break
- The small is easy to disperse
- Take action before it appears
- Create order before there is disorder

Unfortunately, many of our problems and challenges are now very close upon us. We should now however, act to contain those that are just now appearing and which we can glean from our GIS platforms

#### Laozi continues.....

- The great tree comes from a tiny sprout
- The high building from a heap of earth
- The longest journey starts with a single step

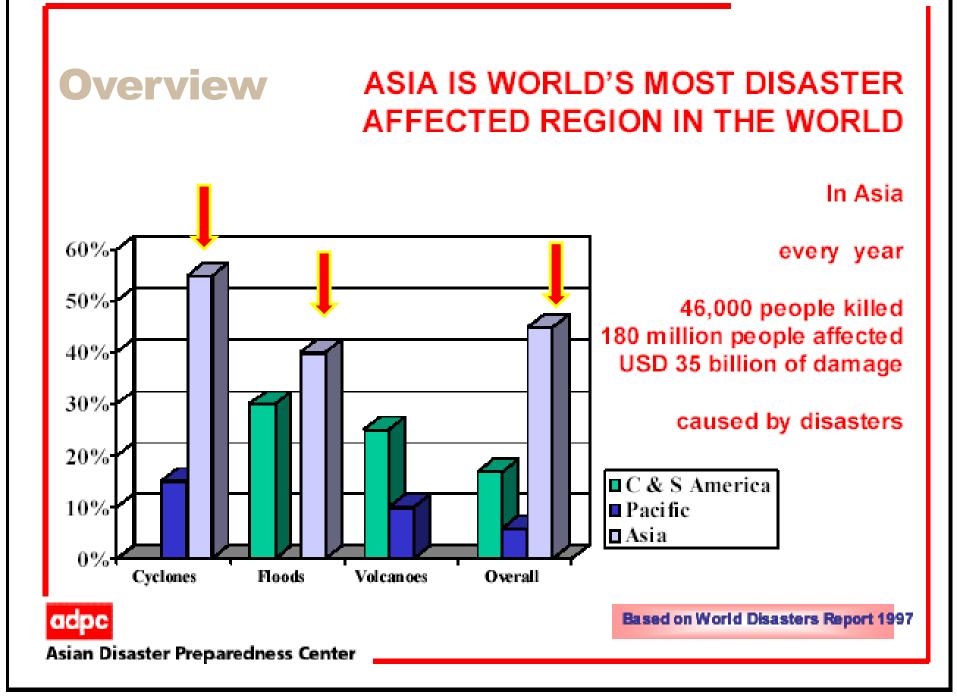
## So, we should not be overwhelmed by the task and not hesitate to take a first step

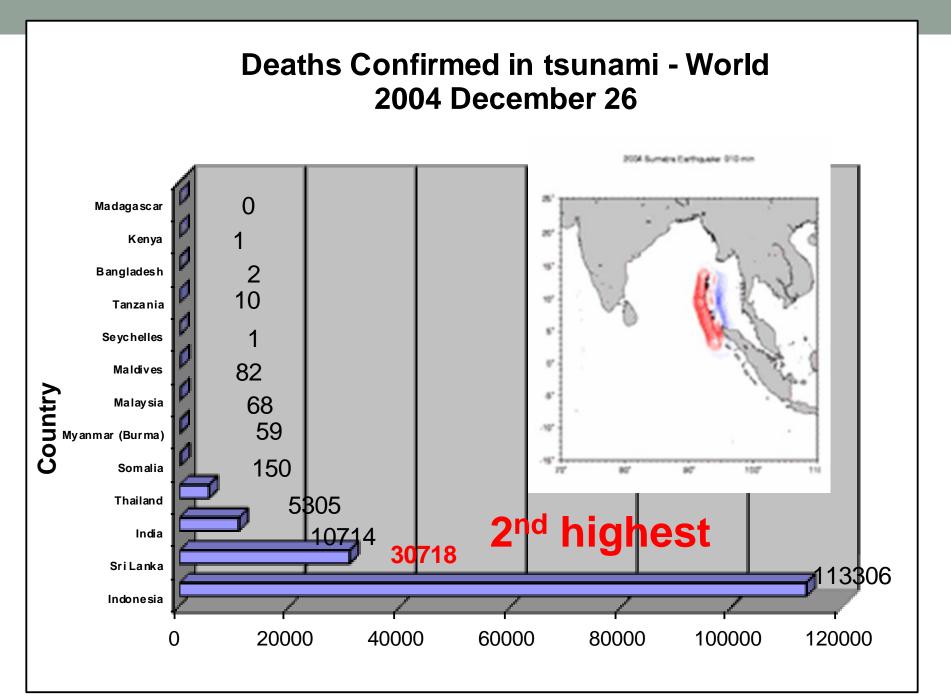
# Introduction

Among the disasters that occur in Sri Lanka are

- Floods
- Droughts
- Landslides
- Cyclones
- Tsunami

are costing a strong impact on the country's socioeconomic environment



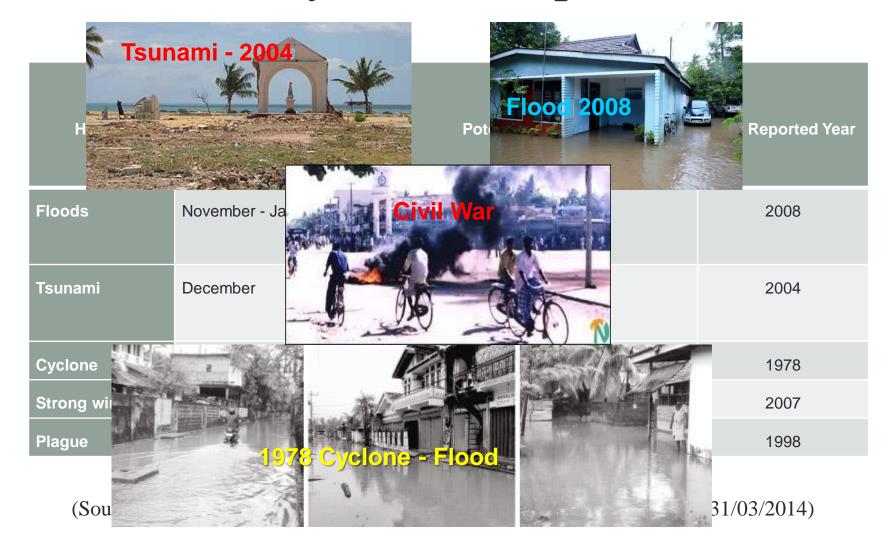


# Disasters in Sri Lanka (2000-2007)

No	Disaster	Year	Area	Effects
1	Flood	2000	Galle, Matara	Dead-02
				100,000
2	Flood	2000	Ampara, Batticaloa, Polonnaruwa	Dead-03
				300,000
3	Cyclone	2000	Ampara, Anuradapura, Batticaloa, Mannar, Trincomalee, Polonnaruwa	Dead-05
				375,000
4	Flood	2001	Matale	375,000
5	Flood	2002	Ampara, Anuradapura, Batticaloa, Mannar, Trincomalee, Polonnaruwa,	Dead-02
			puttalam, Kilinochchi	500,000
6	Flood	2003	Galle, Matara, Hambanthota, Nuwara Eliya, Kalutura	Dead-296
				695,000
7	Flood	2004	Ampara, Anuradapura, Batticaloa, Mannar, Trincomalee, Polonnaruwa,	Dead-06
			Vavuniya, Jaffna, Matara	200,000
8	Tsunami	2004	Jaffna, Mullaitivu, Kilinochchi, <mark>Ampara,</mark> Galle, Matara, Hambantota, Batticaloa	Dead-35399
				23176
9	Flood	2005	Colombo, Rathmalana, Gampaha, Trincomalee, Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu	Dead-06
				145,000
10	Flood	2006	Colombo, Rathmalana, Gampaha, Puttalam, Matara, Badulla, Ratnapura	Dead-25
				333,000
11	Flood	2007	Walappana, Meepai	Dead-18
				68281

(Source: EM-DAT, the OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database - July 15, 2007)

# Disaster history in Akkaraipattu



# **Collapse of Infrastructure & livelihood**



#### **Interruption of Communication**



## Victim found on 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the Tsunami

## **Disaster Management Process** (Traditional Model - ADPC)



# Bottlenecks of Traditional DM Process



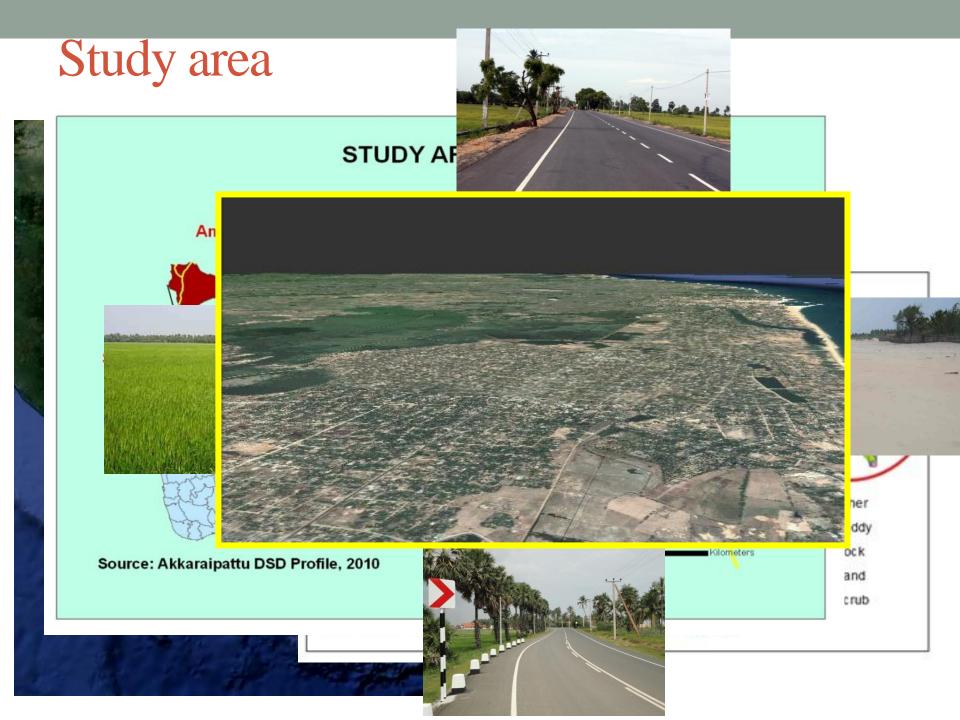
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Delaying the relief activities

Unjustified relief aids

# Therefore we need to find a solution to overcome these bottlenecks





# **Objectives**

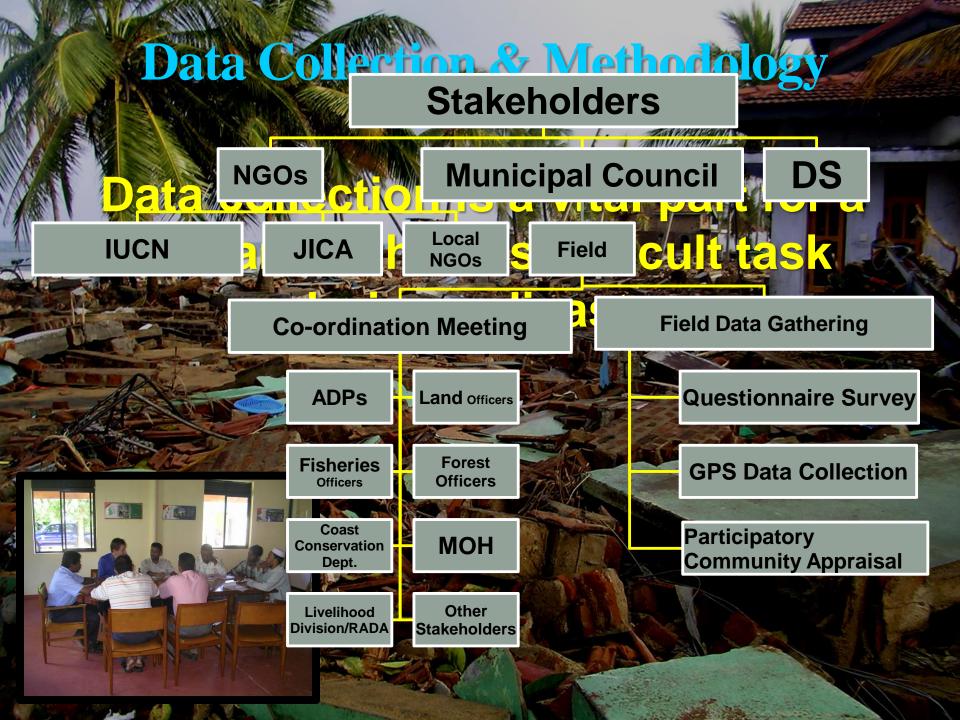
The research has been designed to achieve the following main and specific objectives

#### **Main objectives**

• To use GIS for disaster management process in Akkaraipattu MC.

#### **Specific objectives**

- To identify the potentials of Geo-information Technology in disaster management.
- To prepare a hazard map for Akkaraipattu area using GIS



# **Primary Data Collection**

The data have been gathered from 100 sample households widely scattered in the Akkaraipattu MC area on related variables using Social Survey.

The following primary data collection tools and instruments have been used for this study;

- Questionnaire Survey (100 households)
- Direct Interview
- Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)
- Field visits and observation
- Focus group discussion

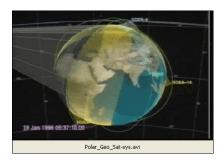
# **Secondary Data Collection**

The secondary data have been collected, from the published (listed in the bibliography) and unpublished sources;

- Government Documents / Reports
- Department Reports, Private (NGO's) Sources
- Printed Maps and Collection from the web and Library Search
- Extent of land from Department of Survey
- Amount of population from census report of Sri Lanka
- Land use information from Land Use Policy Planning Division
- Livelihood information from Ampara District Livelihood Development Plan
- Mapping printed by UNHIC

# **Tools Used - Geo-Informatics**







#### New Evolution for data collection

Mapping & complex Analysis (ArcView 10.1)

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#### 1. Remote Sensing Data

- Google Earth
- IRS1C (LISS iii, 104/69, 22/2/98)

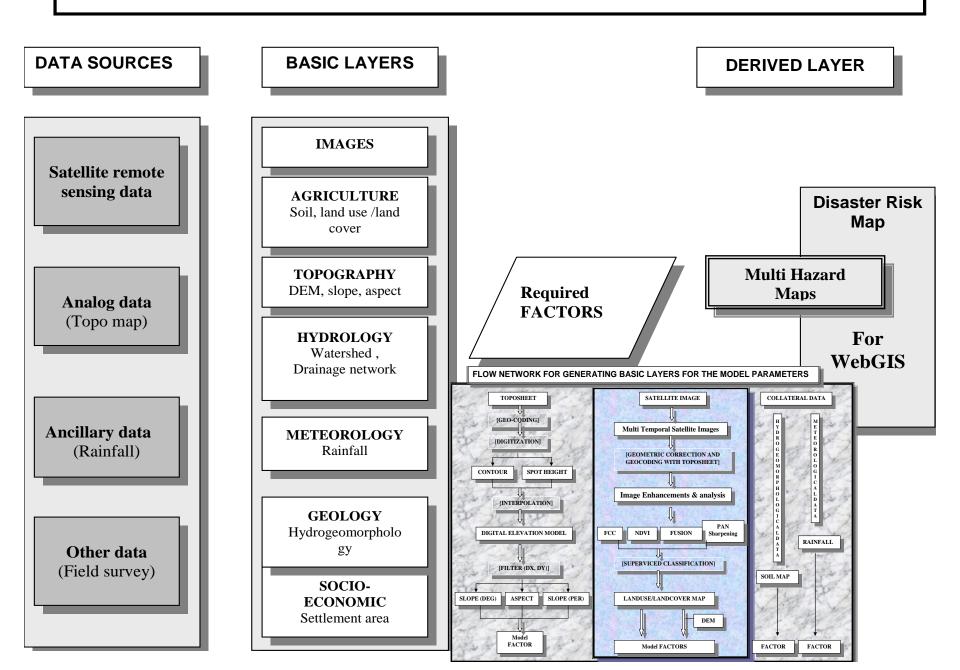
#### 2. Topographic Sheet

• 1:50,000 & 1:10,000 (Survey Dept.)

#### • 3. Ancillary Data

- Meteorological Data
- GN Division (GND) Maps
- District Profile
- Statistical Data
- Elevation data obtained from Land Survey Department, Akkaraipattu Branch

#### FLOW DIAGRAM SHOWING OVERALL METHODOLOGY



# Analysis

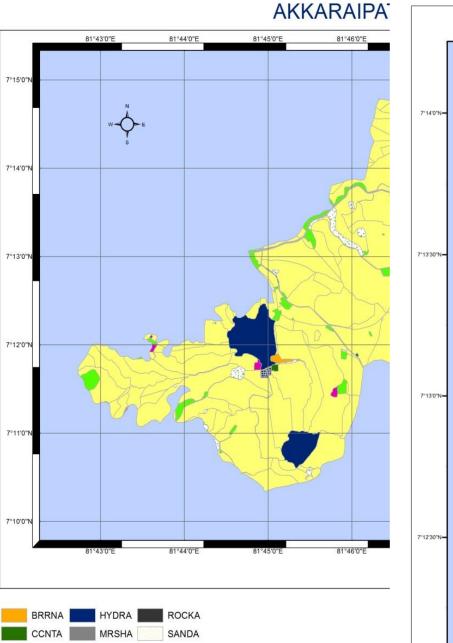
- Spatial data derived from satellite data and nonspatial data stored in the external database were integrated in the GIS and a systematic analysis is undertaken Using
  - ArcGIS 10.1
  - ArcGIS Model Builder
  - Geo-Spatial Statistics Tool
  - Erdas for image analysis



- Preparation of Disaster Vulnerability maps are designed based on the following criteria obtained from
  - Past evidences
  - Questionnaire survey
  - Field investigations

Disaster Vulnershility Man	Disaster Risk Criteria			
Disaster Vulnerability Map	Very High	High	Moderate	Low
Flood (from MSL)	<6ft	<5 ft	<4 ft	<3 ft
Diseases (from sensitive area)	0-50 m	50-100 m	100-200 m	200-300 m
Tsunami (from coastal area)	0-250 m	250-500 m	500-750 m	750-1000 m
Cyclone (from coastal area)	0-250 m	Other area		

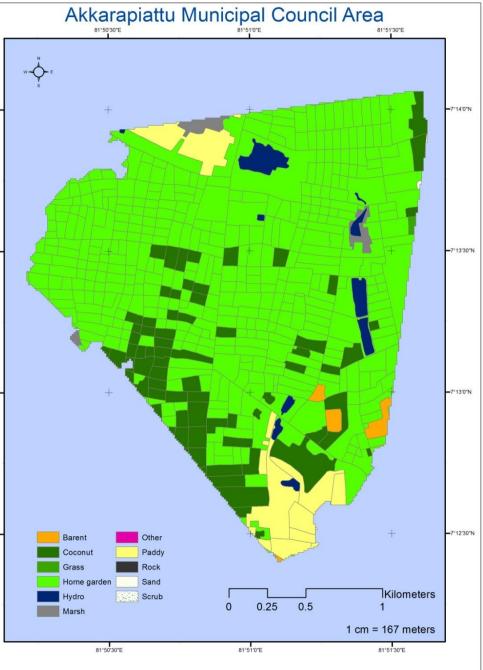
# **Results & Discussions**

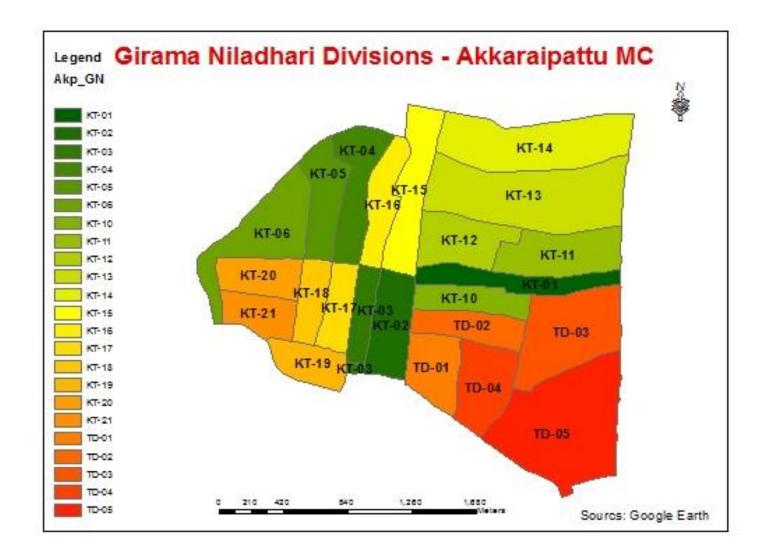


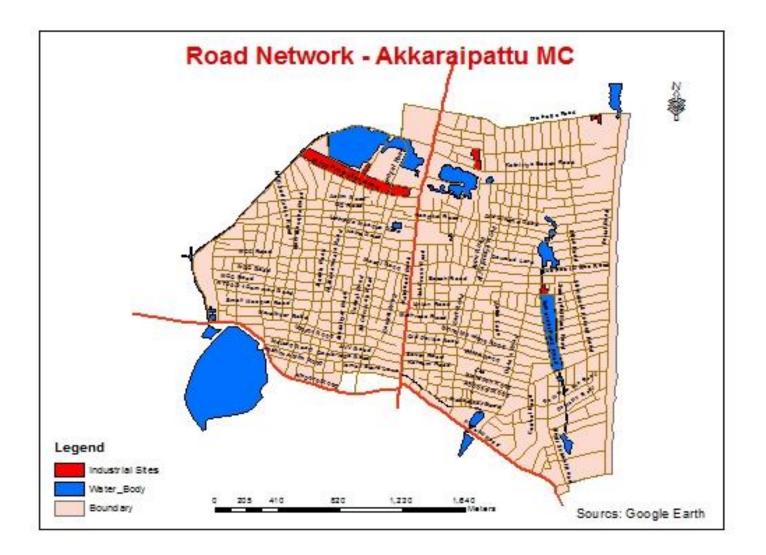
OTHRA SCRBA

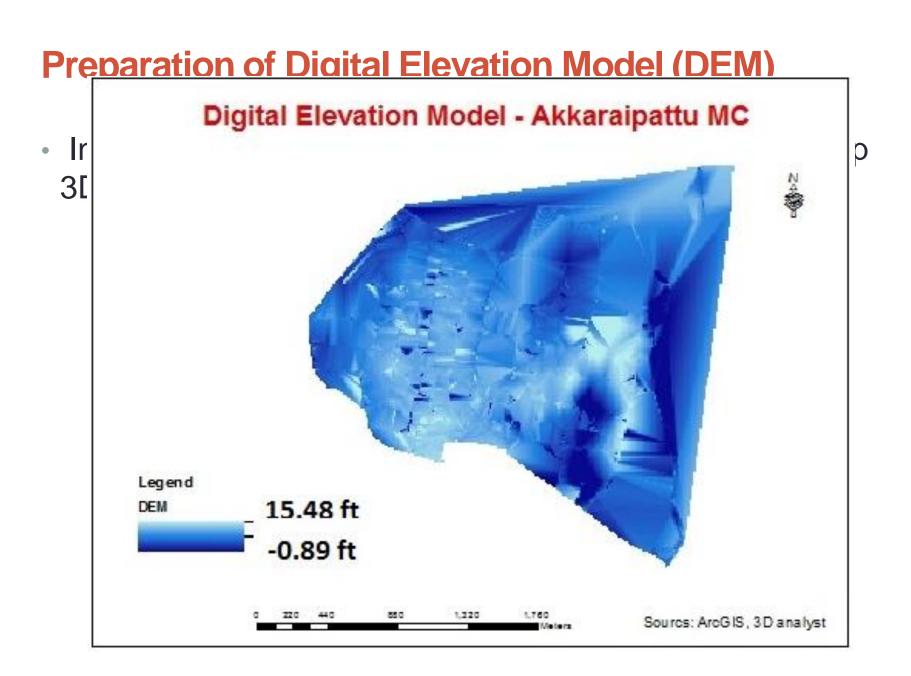
PDDYA

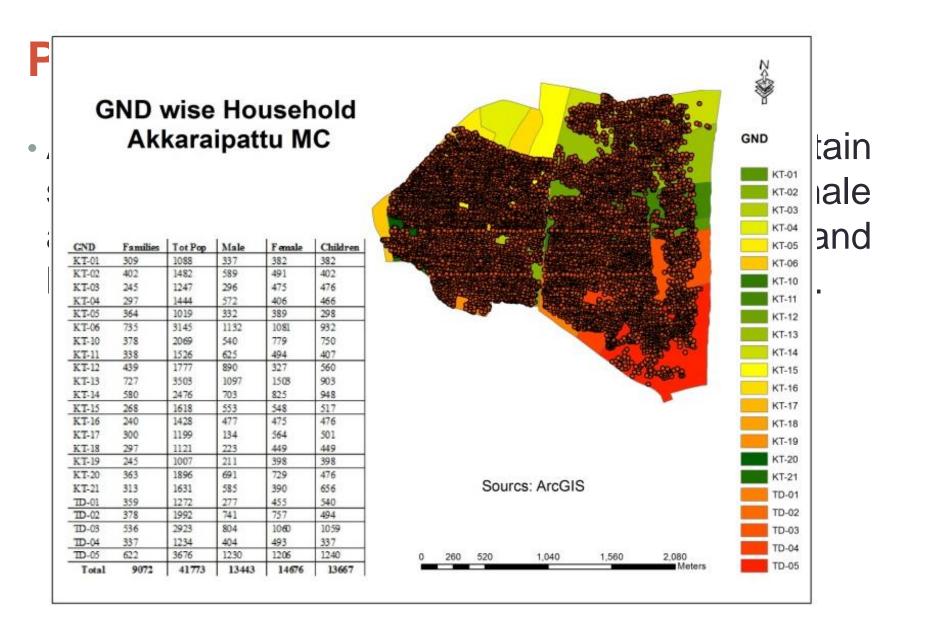
GRSLA HOMSA

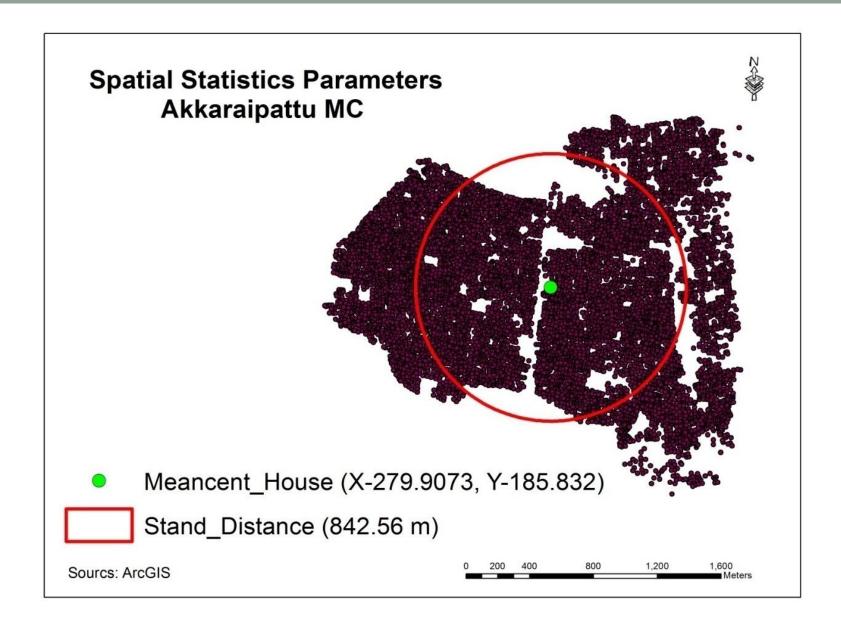












## **Preparation of Disaster Risk Maps**

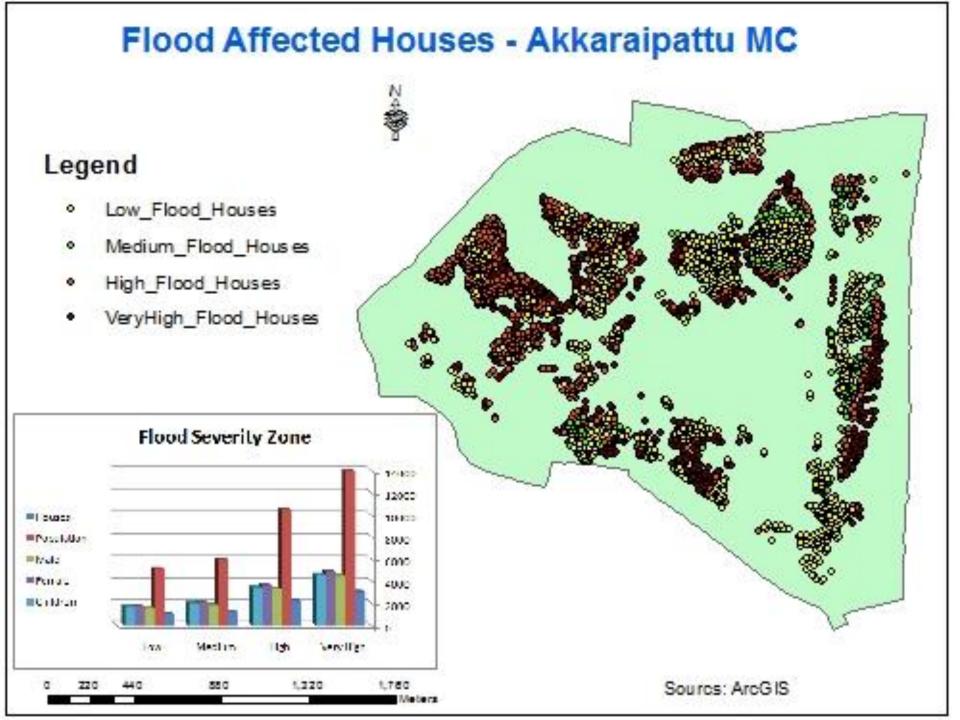
A comprehensive analysis of basic layers were undertaken in order to create disaster risk maps such as

- Health detrimental area
- Tsunami risk area
- Flood risk area
- Cyclone risk area

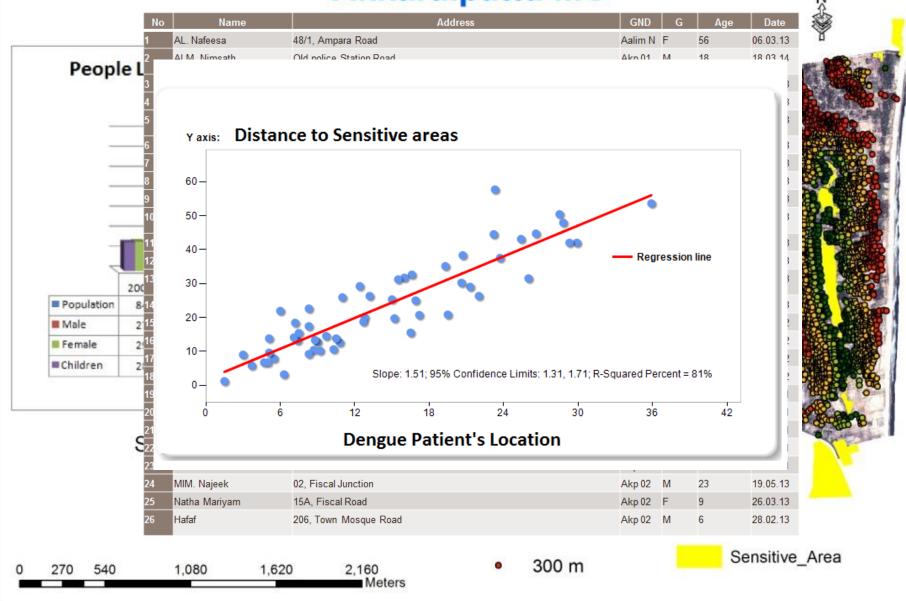
#### Household falling within Tsunami Risk Zones Akkaraipattu MC

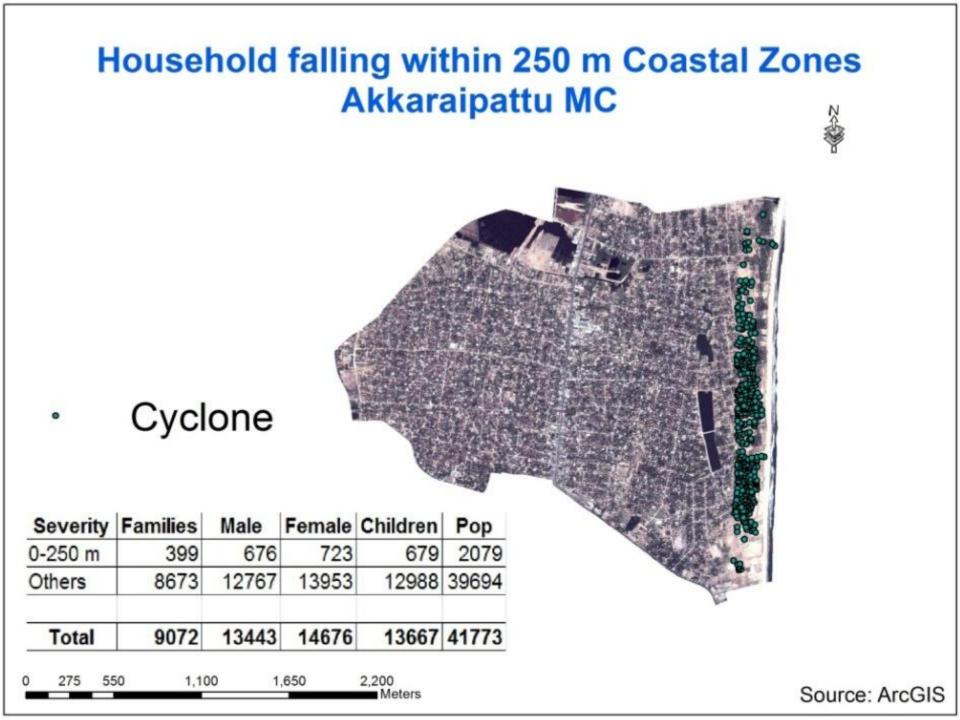
- 750-1000 m
- 500-750 m
- 250-500
- 0-250 m

Severity	Families	Male	Female	Children	Pop
High	986	1638	1787	1599	5015
Low	1085	1486	1653	1679	4819
Moderate	1315	2076	2341	2033	6448
Very High	399	676	723	679	2079
Total	3785	5876	6504	5990	18361



#### Household falling within Health Risk Zones Akkaraipattu MC



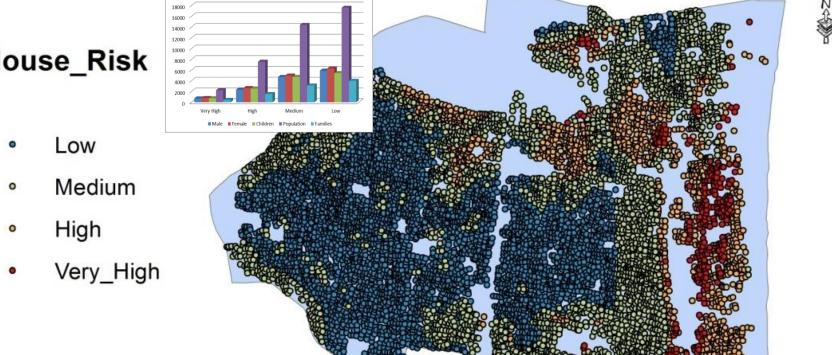


#### **Houses under Multi-Hazard Zones Akkaraipatuu Municipal Council Area**

House hold under multi-hazard risk zones

18000 16000

#### House\_Risk

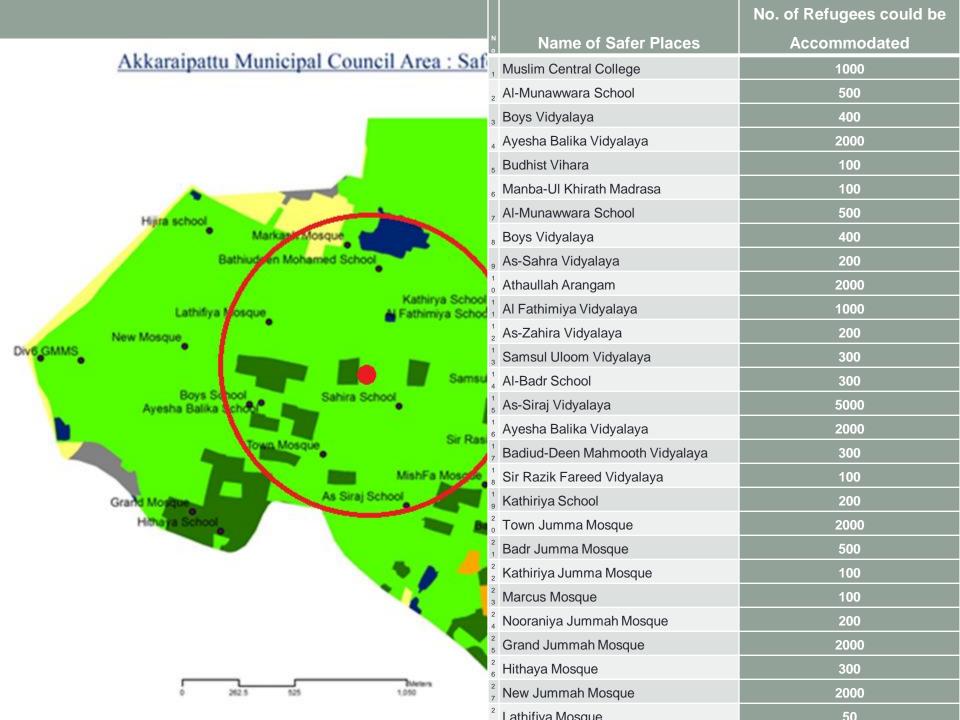


Risk	Male	Female	Children	Population
High	2367	2637	2548	7545
Low	5882	6274	5439	17591
Medium	4702	4975	4720	14396
Very_High	717	793	737	2246
Total	13668	14679	13444	41778



Meters

880



# **Findings**

### Key Problems identified regarding Disaster Management in Akkaraipattu MC

- Poor awareness on disaster management
- Poor adaption for modern technology
- Absence of early warning system
- Lack of integration of all stakeholders
- Increasing population density
- land demand increases the vulnerability to disasters



#### Key Potentials regarding Disaster Management in Akkaraipattu MC

- The quality and variety of skills among the stakeholders
- The resource potentials for disaster management
- The good working relationship of responsible authorities with other services
- A strong leadership team
- Improved Social and Community activities



- The research shows that the potential of Geographic Informatics for creating spatial data layers for multi-hazards.
- Multi-hazard Zone Map for Akkaraipattu MC shows that 4.9 % of houses and 5.4 % of population are falling under very high risk zone, 16.8 % of houses and 18.1 % of population are falling under high risk zone, 34.4 % of houses and 34.5 % of population are falling under moderate risk zone and 43.9 % of houses and 42.1 % of population are falling under low risk zone
- GIS has given a wonderful environment to undertake the big task within a short period very accurately on pixel basis.

# **Final Task**



- A fully fledged GIS environment has to be facilitated at Divisional Secretariat to set up GIS Database.
- Girama Niladharies of every GND regularly update the database about the household statistics and the necessary changes occurred in their respective divisions.
- If a disaster occurs the system will prepare all necessary map layers and provide the detail regarding the affected people in no time that will be used for relief activities.

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