



Update 3

5th January 2005

Hello again everyone,

Here is an update brought to you by the kind folks of Golden Buddha Beach and the Tsunami Relief Fund.

Photos: we now have some photos of Bak Jok, and a few of the other villages, up on the web. You can see them at: http://www.goldenbuddhabeach.com/tsunami_damage_public.html. For some reason, www.gbbmembers.com is not working. I am trying to fix it, and I hope it will be up again soon. Also, many have had trouble donating through the online donation site. If this is the case, please email me for more detail at LHtravel@inet.co.th.



Unfortunately, I do not have an update from the villages other than the photos, but have heard that there is no imminent risk of disease. At the present time, the urgent needs are shelter and better health care.

Update from Golden Buddha:

The electricity is going at the resort (miraculously, our generator survived, thanks to its sturdy concrete housing). We are flushing the wells, and expect the water supply to be restored soon. A contractor is expected soon to give an estimate on clearing the rubble so we can start rebuilding. The houses that were not destroyed are being used as a command center for the team of 5 members that is currently on the island. To paraphrase Dick: "we were destroyed by a tsunami, and now it will take a groundswell of enthusiasm to get golden Buddha back on its feet".

Volunteers:

It is my understanding that Golden Buddha is ready for volunteers to help with the reconstruction. Please email reservations@goldenbuddhabeach.com if you would like to volunteer to help rebuild the resort. In addition to general help, the resort (and then the relief project) will need bilingual people, clerks, and those with construction skills.

For those that are interested working with the villages, we will have a volunteer program up and running as soon possible, but it will take a few weeks to set up. Any one interested, please email LHtravel@inet.co.th.

It is my understanding that there are many volunteers in Thailand looking for things to do. If you know any of these people, please have them email LHtravel@inet.co.th.

Well, that's all for now.

Thanks, and take care,

Bodhi