

All set for tsunami mock drill in city

- Staff Reporter

Exercise on Shanghumughom beach today

Preparations have been completed for the tsunami mock drill to be held at the Shanghumughom beach on Thursday.

The mock drill is being held to check how the State's tsunami warning systems and other disaster management mechanisms will work in case of an earthquake measuring 9 moment magnitude, 10-km deep in the ocean, near the coast of Pakistan.

The State Disaster Management Authority is organising the tsunami mock drill. An awareness class was held at the tsunami park to let the public know about the planned drill and to coordinate the work of various departments. T.R. Rajeev, hazard analyst at the State Emergency Operation Centre; J. Jishad, station officer of the Kazhakuttam Fire and Rescue Station; and Francis Michael, assistant sub-inspector of the Coast Guard, conducted the awareness classes.

The mock drill will begin with a message from the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Service. The message will indicate that the earthquake has occurred at 11.30 a.m. and the tsunami waves will hit the Shanghumughom beach at 4 p.m.

Emergency meeting

An emergency meeting will be chaired at the Collectorate and a control room will be opened.

People will be evacuated from the coast an hour before the tsunami waves hitting the beach. St. Roch's school at Valiyathura will serve as the relief camp.

Police, Fire and Rescue Services, Revenue, Coast Guard, paramilitary personnel and other departments will be part of the drill. District Collector S. Venkatesapathy said that the public should cooperate with the drill.