

4,000 KILLED IN KARACHI TIDAL WAVE

KARACHI, Dec. 4.—More than 40,000 people have been rendered homeless, 4,000 villagers have died and several villages have been washed away along the 100-mile coast from Karachi to Keti Bunder.

These are estimates of the havoc wrought in the recent earthquake and tidal waves. This is revealed in a statement to the Press by the General Secretary of the Sind Provincial Congress Committee.

The villages of Chan, Sanhri, Tursian, Hajamro, Jarwari, Nando, Petiani, Usman Ratri and Dabo have suffered heavy casualties and the last named two places have been entirely wiped out.

MANY DIE OF THIRST

One of the eye-witnesses describing the disaster, said that at about 3-30 a.m. the sky changed its colour. It became reddish in the west and a column of fire shot up from the waters to the sky. The faint sickle of moon was covered with reddish mist and a

deafening thunder roared that shook them off their feet. They cried out to the sleeping villagers to arise and to rush out for their lives. But hardly had the cry been raised, they were all felled down by a towering splash of water, rushing forward with the fury of a giant, sweeping everything in front of it, man and beast, houses and trees. The place was echoing with the poignant and heart-rending cries such as "Oh, merciful Allah, save us." And all around there was confusion and destruction. Those who slept soundly in their huts never knew that a great disaster had overtaken and they must have perished without gaining consciousness. Daylight revealed the ugly and ghastly results of the disaster and people were terror-stricken. With tears in their eyes, they narrated their grim tale of woe, of how they had to dig out half-buried bodies of men yet alive, though unconscious of what had happened to them. Not a drop of sweet water was available for the victims, and many died through sheer thirst. Some drank salt water and suffered the consequences.—A.P.I.