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SCHOOL ROOM COMPLETION REPORT

Prepared for: Moontrekker

Overview

Project ID #: **LK-SR-09-0032**
Name of School or Community: **Singithi Divihuru Nivasa Preschool (Trincomalee)**

Location

Village/City: Kantale
District/Zone: Trincomalee
State/Province: Eastern
Country: Sri Lanka

Description: Unit - 04 of Rajaella is a small village on the eastern coast of Sri Lanka in Trincomalee District. The nearest town is about 3 km away. Colombo is about 280 km away, which is a 7-hour drive.



Map of Sri Lanka. Trincomalee District is on the eastern coast

Student/Teacher Information

NUMBER OF STUDENTS/CHILDREN		NUMBER OF TEACHERS	
Female:	14	Female:	2
Male:	<u>15</u>	Male:	<u>0</u>
TOTAL:	29	TOTAL:	2

GRADE/LEVEL OF STUDENTS: Grades Preschool through Preschool

Community / School Profile

The proposed preschool will be built in Unit - 04 in Rajaella Village in Trincomalee District, which is a historical area owing to the natural fishing harbor. A fortress built in 1798 by Dutch invaders exists in the heart of Trincomalee Town. This district is also a popular destination for deep-sea divers. The Mahaweli River meets the sea in this district, creating lagoons. Coastal belt fishing is done on a large scale and the catch is shipped mainly to central Sri Lanka. Paddy cultivation is also performed on a large scale as water is available from the large reservoir tanks built by past kings of Sri Lanka.

The residents of Unit - 04 live in extreme poverty. Most of the people are farmers or fishermen relocated to this village in 1958 for paddy cultivation. The paddies are cultivated twice a year using water from local reservoirs. During the off-season, the farmers must travel to other villages in search of work. Most of the homes in this area are made of brick and mud or cement. The town also has access to drinking water and electricity.

Current Situation and Reason for Support

Singithi Divihuru Nivasa Preschool is currently run in a community building within the village. The classroom is overcrowded, not child-friendly, and exposed to the elements. It is very difficult to conduct classes and activities in the building because the room gets so overheated. The roof leaks in several places, making classes difficult during the rainy season. Several community groups use the building, which disrupts classes. There is also no play area for the children. There are no toilet or drinking water facilities for the children.

The community has made several requests to the government and nongovernmental organizations, but no one has come forward to help. The Director of Education for Trincomalee contacted Room to Read, as he is eager to help provide this community with a suitable preschool building.

Project Details

The completed Singhithi Divihuru Nivasa Preschool is a spacious, 700-square-foot building with a lot of light and ventilation. This is a single-story building with one classroom, one teachers' room, and one storage room. Room to Read provided 8 tables and 32 chairs for the children, 1 table and 1 chair for the teachers, and various learning materials (drawing books, color pencils, pastels, clay boxes, etc.). The preschool building includes two toilets, one for girls and one for boys. Room to read also provided a playground with one two-seated swing, one slide, one four-seated seesaw, and one four-seated merry-go-round. The new school room is painted blue, green, purple, and yellow. It is an attractive addition to this small community that draws a lot of positive attention.

Two teachers from Singhithi Divihuru Nivasa Preschool have attended the Room to Read-sponsored teacher training in Colombo.

Resources Provided

Challenge Grant Provided by Community - 10.83% of total

Building Maintenance; Construction Materials; Construction Tools; Fence; Monitoring and Support; Obtain Legal Clearances and Titles; Skilled Labor; Sponsor Groundbreaking Ceremony; Sponsor Opening Ceremony; Transportation of Materials; Volunteer Labor; Water Supply System Land; Obtain Legal Clearances and Titles

Provided by Room to Read - 89.17% of total

Blackboard; Building Design; Building Maintenance; Chair - Students; Chair - Teacher; Clean Water; Construction Materials; Construction Tools; Cupboard; Desk - Students; Desk - Teacher; Early Childhood Supplies; Educational Materials; Electricity; Games; Monitoring and Support; Playground Equipment; Puzzles; Skilled Labor; Transportation of Materials; Water Supply System

Trainings

Basic Construction Techniques; Building Maintenance; Early Childhood Education; Financial Management; Water and Sanitation
Early Childhood Education

Comments

During the opening ceremony, Ms. P.H.K. Geetha Kumari, a teacher at Singhithi Divihuru Nivasa Preschool, said, "We previously had to share a space with the community library. Community officials also used this space for storage. The building was not child friendly. During the day, the room gets very warm, making the children restless. The new preschool building has been specifically designed for our children. They now have a comfortable learning space. We hope that more parents will send their students to school. We thank Room to Read and the donors who have given this community a gift that cannot be valued in money."

Photos



The completed school room.



Room to Read provided colorful tables and chairs for the students.



The school room is brightly colored and an attractive addition to this community.



The new school room is spacious and filled with light.



The students are excited to attend classes in their new school room.



Room to Read

This school was established through the cooperation of the local community, Room to Read and Moontrekker Hong Kong 2009. It is dedicated to the children and teachers of Sri Lanka, in whom lie hopes for a bright future through the power of education.

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Dedication plaque affixed to the new school room.