

Janasevana National Housing and Settlement Development Drive National Housing Development Authority

Ministry of Construction, Engineering Services Housing and Common Amenities





# Janasevana Sasunen Sevana

### The Project

Sri Lanka is predominantly a Buddhist Country where majority of people live in rural areas. Their life styles are very closely associated with the Buddhist Temple in the locality. The history of Sri Lanka reveals that the temples and villages are functioning as a homogeneous decision making units where all common problems affecting people are discussed.

There are more than 10,000 Buddhist temples in Sri Lanka and all most all the institutes are managed by "Dayaka Sabha" . These "Dayaka Sabha" joint together and form "Sasanarakshaka Balamandala" at the levels of administrative divisions and at the national levels. As such, there is a very centralized and powerful communication mechanism between these institutions and other governmental and non governmental organizations. At the village level, in conformity to Buddhist principle, able families offer their contribution to the Temple related activities in cash and or in kind while relatively poor families offer their contribution by way of providing free labour. It is the same principle that is used in helping poor families to fulfill their day to day needs and also the long term needs like education for children and construction of houses.

As such this project is designed and strategically positioned to capitalize on the powerful role played by the Buddhists temples in the upliftment of lives of rural poor. Actually this project intended to strengthen and manage in a centralized way what is already existing and deep rooted in the Sri Lankan society.

#### Nature of the Project

In order to mark the "Sambudhathwa Jayanthi" 2600, the Ministry of Construction, Engineering Services Housing and Common Amenities has developed a programme called "Janasevena Sasunen Sevena" National Housing Development Programme aiming at 10210 poor families to assist building of houses for them who are living around 10210 temples in the country

In this project each temple is assigned to coordinate and give leadership to construction of a house for a suitable poor family in the catchment area. 50% of the estimated cost will be provided in cash by the state (National Housing Development Authority) by way of raising funds in a centralized manner locally and overseas. The Dhayaka Sabha of the respective temple is expected to collect construction materials and labour. The project shall be coordinated and managed jointly by the state representatives and the Dayaka Sabha of the temple.

## Mechanism for Donor Funding

Donors are kindly requested to contact NHDA officials at T.P No. +94112446180, +94112325555 and email nhdacha@sltnet.lk,, nhdadgmrhd@sltnet.lk if there is any matter to be clarified or if there is any need of more information. If any donor need to fund a certain number of housing in a particular geographical area, NHDA is very much happy to provide the details including the area map, names of the temples, names of the beneficiaries and photographs of the location where the houses are built.

The donors who are willing to contribute direct to the fund may do so by depositing the money in our account No. 204100140003931 of People's Bank, Head Quarter's Brach, Colombo - 02 and providing us with details of money transfer.

#### **Contact Details**

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MAY 2011 \_\_\_\_\_\_ www.sannasa.net 11