

Elections complete in Sri Lanka

The elections are over and Mahinda Rajapakse (ex Prime Minister) has now become the elected President of the Democratic Republic of Sri Lanka. This should mean that there will be no immediate changes to the political climate which will adversely impinge on the IODR's ability to complete its projects in Sri Lanka.

Fundraising Efforts for the Earthquake in Asia



Tony Matharu - Chairman of Indian Ocean Disaster Relief, has responded to the Earthquake tragedy in Asia. He recently flew a film and sound crew to Faisalabad in Pakistan in order to record a song and video with the England Cricket Team in order to raise funds for both the development and support of cricket in the United Kingdom and to raise funds for the Asian Earthquake victims and survivors.

The record has been suggested as a possible No.1 for Christmas - all proceeds are committed to charity. →

Childrens Orphanage

The government donated land in Weligama is still subject to certain administrative and other constraints and the consequential delays on IODR's plans are unfortunate. In view of the past and anticipated delays the IODR has now purchased some land as part of a parcel of property in Ratgama, Galle, 107km south of Colombo. This area, in between Hikkaduwa and Galle was particularly badly affected, the scenes of the railway train with upturned carriages taken nearly 300 metres inland from the main southern highway close to Hikkaduwa, remain vivid in the memory.

The local police station and the local school were completely destroyed. The police station has been given a temporary tenancy, whilst a UN funded project, which includes the development of a new police station and school, are completed.



Police station - temporary tenants



Weligama Site

Final surveys are currently being completed in order to develop the orphanage originally planned for the government donated land in Weligama.

The IODR is further in the process of purchasing additional land in Weligama; we are intending to exchange contracts within the next few weeks. This land also has existing structure on it, and it is intended that leisure/play areas may be incorporated into the scheme for this property.



Keedie and the England Cricket Team at the recording in Faisalabad, Pakistan