

## **Puthukudiyiruppu (PTK) Divisional Hospital Needs**

### **Current Situation**

PTK Divisional Hospital was the last functioning hospital in Vanni before the end of the war. This hospital was badly damaged by shelling and was forced to move to a makeshift hospital. The hospital was rebuilt and started functioning with minimum basic facilities in May 2013. There are no wards at present in the hospital.



*A Photo of the damaged hospital*



*Another photo of the damaged hospital*



***Damaged Mortuary of PTK hospital in August 2013***



***Rubbles from the damaged hospital in August 2013***

AssistRR have been approached by Mullaithivu District Educational Development Trust Fund headed with a request to build two wards (male & female). We understand that the patients are having a very hard time due to non availability of wards. Currently there are a few beds inside the OPD building next to the out patients waiting area. We have been informed that in-patients are forced to sleep on the floor when there are more patients than the number of available beds.

Assist RR understand that USAID has agreed to build a maternity ward. However, they still require male and female wards. Hence, the request for building at least a ward by the hospital

administration has been made. The GA of Mullaithivu was trying to get funding through other sources but as he failed to do so, he has now approached Assist RR for assistance.

The hospital administration has made a request to AssistRR for some essential equipment to their OPD. In addition, they also informed Assist RR that the hospital has been struggling without a mortuary as they are unable to use the existing destroyed mortuary (see photo above). They made a request that Assist RR should consider renovating the mortuary so that they will have a facility to store dead bodies.



*Recently built main building of the hospital*



*Out Patients waiting area and the beds for the in-patients in the adjoining area*

## **AssistRR donating medical equipments to PTK Hospital**

Trustees of Assist RR considered the hospital requests for the medical equipments and the wards and agreed that Assist RR should support their requests. Assist RR considered this as a top priority, although this is a government's responsibility. However, people have already waited long enough for these facilities and have been suffering. It was decided to donate some of the essential medical equipment as a matter of urgency based on funds availability. Assist RR also made an appeal to their supporters for funds to these projects. As a result, Assist RR received a donation of £1500 from a donor and a number of pledges.

Assist RR purchased a number of items, worth nearly Rs 1.5 Million, in Colombo based on the advice from Dr Thileeban, Regional Director of Health Services, Mullaithivu, and donated them to the hospital at a ceremony attended by Mullaithivu GA, Mr N Vethanayagan and Dr A Thileeban on 28 August 2013. The list of items donated to the hospital is:

- CTG Machine (with Twin probes)
- ECG Machine( Three Channels)
- Dental chair
- Pulseoximeter with (adult, paediatric, neonatal) all probes
- Diagnostic set
- Laryngoscope
- 20 BNF books

The hospital administration and the GA were so pleased that their request became a reality within a short space of time and thanked Assist RR and their supporters for their generous donation. The doctors pointed out the importance of the lifesaving equipment donated by Assist RR. They also pointed out that they have been using the 48th edition of BNF books whereas the current edition is 62nd. These books provide up-to-date guidance on prescribing, dispensing and administering medicines and were donated by Dr Jeyapooranabala.



*Dr Thileeban lighting the lamp*



*Medical equipments on display*



*GA Mr Vethanayagan and others inspecting the equipments*



*Assist RR Chairman Dr V Sarveswaran handing over the CTG machine*



*GA, Mr Vethanayagan handing over the ECG Machine*



*Mrs A Sarveswaran handing over Pulseoximeter*



*GA, Mr Vethanayagan making a speech at the end of the handing over ceremony*

## **PTK Hospital Immediate Needs**

As mentioned earlier, the following needs are considered to be high priorities:

- Renovation of the mortuary
- Medical equipment such as Cardiac Monitor, Ultra sound scanner, Infusion pump & Auroscope/Ophthalmoscope
- Male & Female Wards

We hope you can realise the extent of problems and lack of facilities at the hospital from the photos given in this report. In order to carry out some of the above works, which would enhance the facilities at the hospital and save lives, funds are needed. Please support our efforts and donate generously so that we can contribute in a small way to the enhancement of the lives of people affected by the war.

Your contributions would much appreciated by us as well as by people in Vanni.