

## Puthukudiyiruppu (PTK) Divisional Hospital - Projects by Assist RR

PTK Divisional Hospital was the last functioning hospital in Vanni during the war. This hospital was badly damaged by shelling and was later moved to a make-shift hospital in a school building. Since then, the hospital was rebuilt, and from May 2013, it started to function again with very basic facilities. There are however no wards at present in the hospital.



*Photos of the damaged hospital*

### Mortuary Repair/Renovation

The hospital also made a request to Assist RR for help with the renovation of the mortuary, since they were unable to use the existing mortuary which was destroyed during the war. Assist RR agreed to support and the renovated mortuary was handed over to the hospital on 5th Nov 2013 at a ceremony attended by the GA of Mullaithivu, Mr Vethanayagan, Dr Thileepan, RDHS of Mullaithivu district, the medical officer of PTK hospital, Dr Sathiyarupan, and many others.



*Handing over the mortuary to Dr Thileepan, RDHS of Mullaithivu District*



*Hospital mortuary before and after renovation*

### **Wards Building Project at PTK Hospital**

Assist RR has also been approached by the Mullaithivu District Educational Development Trust Fund headed by Mullaithivu GA with a request to support the building of two wards (male & female) at the PTK hospital. As you can understand, the non-availability of the wards is causing intolerable inconvenience to the patients. The only facility available at present is the few beds inside the OPD building next to the out patients waiting area (as shown below), and the in-patients are forced to sleep on the floor when even these beds are full.



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

Assist RR understands that USAID has agreed to build a maternity ward, and have already started construction of this. However, the hospital still requires paediatric, male, female wards and an operation theatre. The GA of Mullaithivu has been trying to get funding through other sources but as he failed to do so, he has now approached Assist RR for assistance for the building of at least one ward.

AssistRR has now joined forces with Serendip Children's Home, another registered charity in England & Wales, to raise funds to build at least one ward for the hospital. It is estimated that it will cost around £31,000 to build a 24-bed ward with capacity to add a second floor at a later stage. Both charities have raised nearly £20,000 so far, which allowed us to begin the project with the foundation being laid on 5th November 2013. The construction work has now commenced and the ward is expected to be completed by Thai Pongal (Mid Jan 2014).



***Foundation laying ceremony at PTK hospital for a ward***

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 be much appreciated by us as well as by people of Vanni. If we could raise enough funds, we can certainly build a two story building, which would enable to have two wards.