Marks & Spencer, CARE Sri Lanka and MAS Holdings complete a community housing project to benefit 41 tsunami survivor families

Marks & Spencer, CARE Sri Lanka and MAS Holdings have completed the building of a community housing project in Bandaragama called "Senehasa Piyasa Housing Scheme;' for 41 tsunamiaffected families. At least one member from each of the 41 families is a MAS Holdings employee. The project cost Rs. 60 mn, with 60% of the cost donated by Marks & Spencer and CARE and the balance contributed by MAS Holdings. Each house cost Rs. 800,000. The site is spread over an area of 5 acres with each house built on 10 perches. Every house has two rooms, a living room, kitchen, toilet, bathroom and porch. The new complex also consists of a playground, sports field, community-meeting hall, medical room, library and three shop units. The site also has water and electricity, in addition to a perimeter fence to provide security and privacy. From the very beginning MAS Holdings was actively involved in assisting with tsunami relief. The company started a Tsunami ReliefTrust Fund, to which many international companies, inclusive of MAS Holdings' aggressive Chinese competitors, have donated. The trust fund has utilized US$ 1.5 mn in reconstruction projects along the southern coast.

Deshamanya Mahesh Amalean, Chairman, MAS Holdings said that from the very beginning MAS community housing project in Bandaragama called “Senehasa Piyasa Housing Scheme;’ for 41 tsunamiaffected families. At least one member from each of the 41 families is a MAS Holdings employee. The project cost Rs. 60 mn, with 60% of the cost donated by Marks & Spencer and CARE and the balance contributed by MAS Holdings. Each house cost Rs. 800,000. The site is spread over an area of 5 acres with each house built on 10 perches. Every house has two rooms, a living room, kitchen, toilet, bathroom and porch. The new complex also consists of a playground, sports field, community-meeting hall, medical room, library and three shop units. The site also has water and electricity, in addition to a perimeter fence to provide security and privacy.

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