

## **Report of the Destruction caused by the Cyclone Wind- November2008**

St. Patrick's College, Jaffna has been serving not only the Tamil community but also the people of other ethnic communities of Sri Lanka for the last 158 years. Its contribution to the society is so vast that it has produced great intellectuals and men of great service both in the secular and religious sphere. The College has been subject to severe destruction and damage due to the ongoing war. On several occasions, the displaced people and people in the neighbourhood sought refuge at the college. And on such situations, with the generous assistance of the N.G.Os and the Old Boys' Associations we were able to safeguard the people and later on, we have refurbished the College and worked with renewed strength.

The Cyclone and pouring rain which befell last week is another disaster for the College. There is severe damage to many sections:

- 1) A very old, huge tree in the Junior Secondary Section fell and completely demolished three classrooms. The furniture in two of those classrooms is beyond repair. We need to rebuild the classroom anew.
- 2) A parapet wall about 110 meters on the eastern side of the college playground had fallen due to flood level rising very high. The wall was a great fortification to the school. Now due to the destruction of the wall all the possessions of the College are exposed to thieves and misuse. Hence we are in urgent need of renovating this wall.
- 3) A section of wall beside the main entrance of the College was damaged by a huge tree on the road side falling on it and it has completely demolished the students' saving bank building and the shed at the entrance of the Mathews Block.
- 4) Several roof sheets in the College Hall, Hostel Dormitory and Study Hall have been blown away due to severe wind and the pouring rain has spoiled books and other materials. Almost all the utensils of the College Hostel have been washed away by the flood. There are 22 hostellers from the Vanni area who have been staying here the whole year due to the closure of the A9 highway. Along with them there are 58 hostellers from other parts of the peninsula.
- 5) The College Store with 15 bags of rice and other provisions such as flour, sugar and milk powder was completely damaged due to the flood.
- 6) The stadium in the College playground and the rooms for safeguarding the sports items were flooded and has caused a great loss.
- 7) The whole compound of the College was flooded with many huge and small trees falling down. There are pieces of broken tiles and broken roof sheets everywhere. The two wells in the college compound have been contaminated due to the floods going in. Hence we need to clean the compound and the wells.

## An Estimate of the Reconstruction and Repairs

1. Reconstruction of the classrooms			
	I.	Labour charge for removing debris	22,000.00
	II.	Construction	<u>700,000.00</u> 722,000.00
2. Furniture for 2 classrooms			
	i.	60 students' desks (3500x60)	210,000.00
	ii.	60 students' chairs (2800x60)	168,000.00
	iii.	2 teachers' tables (5700x2)	11,500.00
	iv.	2 teachers' chairs (3200x2)	<u>6,400.00</u> 395,900.00
3. Roof Work			
	i.	College Hall – 13 Asbestos sheets (13x2700)	35,100.00
	ii.	Primary – 10 sheets (10x2700)	27,000.00
	iii.	Hostel Study Hall – 4 sheets (4x2700)	<u>10,800.00</u> 72,900.00
4. Construction of the walls and the tin Shed			
	i.	Parapet wall on the East	475,000.00
	ii.	Front wall	35,000.00
	iii.	Shed at the entrance	<u>65,000.00</u> 575,000.00
5. Sports Items			
	i.	Cricket materials	25,000.00
	ii.	Athletic equipments	<u>20,000.00</u> 45,000.00
6. Kitchen Utensils			
			30,000.00
7. Labour Charge for cleaning the College compound			
		And wells	<u>50,000.00</u>
		<b>Total</b>	<b><u>1890,800.00</u></b>

We take special care on the hostellers from Vanni who have been here for more than two years not seeing their parents since the closure of the A9 road. While thanking you for accepting our proposals, we hope that you would help us to repair the damages caused by the cyclone and give a facelift for the college for its smooth functioning.

Rev. Fr. M. Jero Selvanayagam  
RECTOR

Rev. Fr. A.P. Thirumahan  
Bursar