



Responsible Tourism Initiatives- Our Achievements

Updated on 10th October 2010

From the inception, Saman Villas has conformed to be a socially responsible tourism partner in our own way and has been engaged in several community development activities. Our community development activities are not limited for the benefit of people in Aturuwella and nearby villages, but also in remote villages away from Saman Vilas.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMNET WORK IN ATURUWELLA AND NEARBY VILLAGES

Activity/Description	Date commenced	Current Status	Cost
<p>1. Encouraging the use of local vehicles We encourage our guests to travel with the local 3-Wheeler (tuk tuk) drivers to nearby places. Information in this regard is given in the guest information leaflet. List of nearby places of interest is provided in every guest room.</p>	From inception	Ongoing	Not applicable
<p>2. Scholarships to children of Athuruwella village Hotel offers 15 scholarships annually to needy children selected on merit from grades 6 to 11 by the Principal and the Divisional Secretary.</p>	1994	Ongoing	Cost in 2009/10 Rs. 108,000/=
<p>3. Sinhala New Year & Christmas parties for village children Athuruwella village school children are invited annually in two batches to a specially organized children's Sinhala New Year party and Christmas party.</p>	1996	Ongoing	Cost in 2009/10 Rs. 82,518/=
<p>4. Computer Training Centre & Lecture Room Hotel donated a Computer Training centre and a Lecture Room to conduct computer training and English courses, complete with furniture and fittings. Centre is located at the Bentota Cultural Centre at Athuruwella .</p>	Opened in May 2004	In use for the stated purposes	Today's value over Rs. 3.0 million
<p>5. Mosquito eradication-Hume pipe system We have identified major breeding places in the vicinity of the hotel. One of the main causes was a stream outside the eastern boundary of the hotel which discharges polluted water to the sea. The water stagnates in the path of the stream during dry weather providing ideal grounds for breeding of mosquitoes.</p>	2007	Completed in 2007	Rs. 306,280/=

The hotel installed a closed hume pipe system and a pumping station to eliminate these breeding grounds			
6. English training programme for village youth At the computer training centre lecture room English classes are conducted for the benefit of village youth. Entire teacher's salary is paid by the Company.	March 2009	Ongoing	Cost in 2009/10 Rs. 175,000/=
7. Village New Year's sports festival Saman Villas has sponsored all the prizes for the village sports festival for the last two years.	April 2009	Ongoing	In April 2010 Rs. 40,066/=
8. Computer Training On a request made by Saman Villas to the Governor, Southern Province an Internet Café and Communication (centre was opened under the Government's "Nanasala" programme at the above Computer Training Centre. Maintenance of computer equipment and a part of the teacher's salary is funded by the Hotel.	May 2009	Ongoing	Cost in 2009/10 Rs. 55,000/=
9. Mosquito eradication-Education of villagers The hotel has conducted 02 training programs to educate school children and villagers primarily to eliminate mosquitoes and prevent spread of dengue. A leaflet has been distributed at these training sessions.	2009	Ongoing	Cost in 2009/10 Rs. 12,310/=
10. Shelter for 3-wheeler divers Hotel has agreed to construct a shelter for the 3-wheeler drivers at the entrance to the hotel.	Scheduled for November 2011		Not estimated
11. Organic home garden crops Hotel distributed 103 compost bins to 103 families in the village of Athuruwella to convert waste into organic compost and use same as manure for home garden crops Seed material has been distributed to the villagers. Lecture sponsored by the hotel was conducted by the Agricultural Officer. A printed leaflet on compost was distributed at these meetings. The best home garden and the two runners-up will be selected at the end of this year and they will be given cash rewards totaling to Rs. 10,000/=	2009 2009/10 Scheduled for December 2010	Ongoing Completed	Cost to March 2010 Rs. 234,050/= Cost in 2009/10 Rs. 3,838/= Cost Rs. 10,000/=

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORK IN OTHER REMOTE VILLAGES

Activity/Description	Date commenced	Current Status	Cost
<p>1. Pre-school and day-care centre Hotel provided architectural and structural drawings and contributed 35% of the total cost of a fully equipped building for a pre-school and day care centre in a village in the south, 95 kms from the hotel.</p>	August 2004	January 2005	Rs. 500,000/=
<p>2. Aluthwewa Irrigation scheme An irrigation scheme was renovated and upgraded in a remote village on the Habarana - Trincomalee road, 260 Kms from the Hotel</p>	2005	Completed in 2005 December	Rs. 1,882,000/=
<p>3. Education of children at Liyangaswagura Adarsha Kanishta Vidyalaya Hotel donated a computer and printer at a cost of Rs. 72,000.00 for the benefit of students at Liyangaswagura Adarsha Kanishta Vidyalaya in the Kundasale AGA's Division. In addition the company sponsored the school price giving in two consecutive years.</p>	2006	Completed in 2008	Cost up to March 2010 Rs. 115,448/=
<p>4. Restoration of temple paintings of historical value Saman Villas partially funded the restoration of a 68 year old mural by the renowned artist, George Keyt at the Gothami Viharaya in Colombo 08.</p>	2007	Completed in 2008	Rs. 500,000/=
<p>5. English Training Programme at Liyangaswagura village temple Program is conducted at the temple for the benefit of the children of Liyangaswagura and nearby villages. Two 90 minute classes are conducted every Sunday.</p>	2008	Ongoing	Cost in 2009/10 Rs. 213,881/=