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## CONSTRUCTED READING ROOM COMPLETION REPORT

*Prepared for: Book Off Aug Campaign*

### Overview

Project ID #: **LK-CRR-09-0009**  
Name of School or Community: **Kongaspitiya Kanista Vidyalaya (Monaragala)**

### Location

**Village/City:** Kongaspitiya  
**District/Zone:** Monaragala  
**State/Province:** Uva Province  
**Country:** Sri Lanka

**Description:** Kongaspitiya Village is located in the hilly area of Monaragala District. It is 293 km from Colombo.

Narrow, windy, and bumpy roads in poor condition limit travel to this region. Although the trip is beautiful, the drive from Colombo takes 8 hours.



Map of Sri Lanka.

## Student/Teacher Information

NUMBER OF STUDENTS/CHILDREN		NUMBER OF TEACHERS	
Female:	90	Female:	4
Male:	<u>87</u>	Male:	<u>7</u>
TOTAL:	177	TOTAL:	11

**GRADE/LEVEL OF STUDENTS:** Grades 1 through 11

## Community / School Profile

The proposed Constructed Reading Room (CRR) will be built in Kongaspitiya Village in Monaragala District, which is the second largest administrative district in Sri Lanka. Monaragala District has nine official areas. There are approximately 98 people per square kilometer in this district and the average family size is 5.6 members. Monaragala District is one of the least developed districts in Sri Lanka. There is a lack of basic facilities (including housing, running water, electricity, toilets, medical care, and schools). Agriculture is the main occupation in this district. Unfortunately, scarcity of water makes this a difficult way to make a living. Recently, sugar cane was introduced and has quickly become a successful crop in this region. Most of the villagers receive Samurdhi funds from the government as part of a poverty reduction program.

Most of the residents of Kongaspitiya Village are farmers or fishermen. The paddies are cultivated once a year. During the off-season, the farmers must travel to other villages in search of work. Most of the homes in this area are made of brick and mud or cement. There is no running water or electricity in this village.

## Current Situation and Reason for Support

Currently, the school library is operating out of a small corner of the science lab. The walls are made of bricks and timber, but they are cracking. The roof leaks and leaves the library and students exposed to the weather. The library has only 3 cupboards, and only 100 square feet of usable space. Even with the poor conditions, the librarian is dedicated to creating an educational environment for the students. The librarian has worked hard to create a check-out system, allowing students to bring home books to share with their families.

The school's enthusiasm for education is apparent, and Room to Read is pleased to establish a CRR at this school.

## Date Established

November 5, 2009

## Project Details

### Description of Construction

The new CRR at Kongaspitiya Kanista Vidyala School is approximately 800 square feet. It is a spacious building that has a lot of light and ventilation, with an open reading area large enough to accommodate many students at a time. This is a single-story building. There are two built-in wall cupboards. The CRR is painted yellow, green, and blue, and it is an attractive addition to this community.

### Description of Library Establishment

Room to Read has provided two student tables, ten student chairs, one librarian table and one chair, one lockable cupboard, one display shelf, and various stationeries (including paper for artwork and writing and a system for managing the checking out of books). In addition to furniture, Room to Read donated 79 local language books, 195 English books, 802 primary-level books, and other educational materials.

## Resources Provided

### Challenge Grant Provided by Community - 14% of total

Construction Materials; Construction Tools; Electricity; Fence; Land; Library Maintenance; Monitoring and Support; Obtain Legal Clearances and Titles; Skilled Labor; Sponsor Groundbreaking Ceremony; Transportation of Materials; Volunteer Labor  
Electricity; Land; Librarian; Library Maintenance

### Provided by Room to Read - 86% of total

195 English Books

802 Non-RtR Local Language Books

79 LLP Books

Chair - Students; Cupboard; Tables

Building Design; Construction Materials; Construction Tools; Cupboard; Display Racks; Doors; Flooring; Locks; Monitoring and Support; Paint; Roof; Skilled Labor; Transportation of Materials; Windows

Chair - Teacher; Desk - Teacher; Shelves

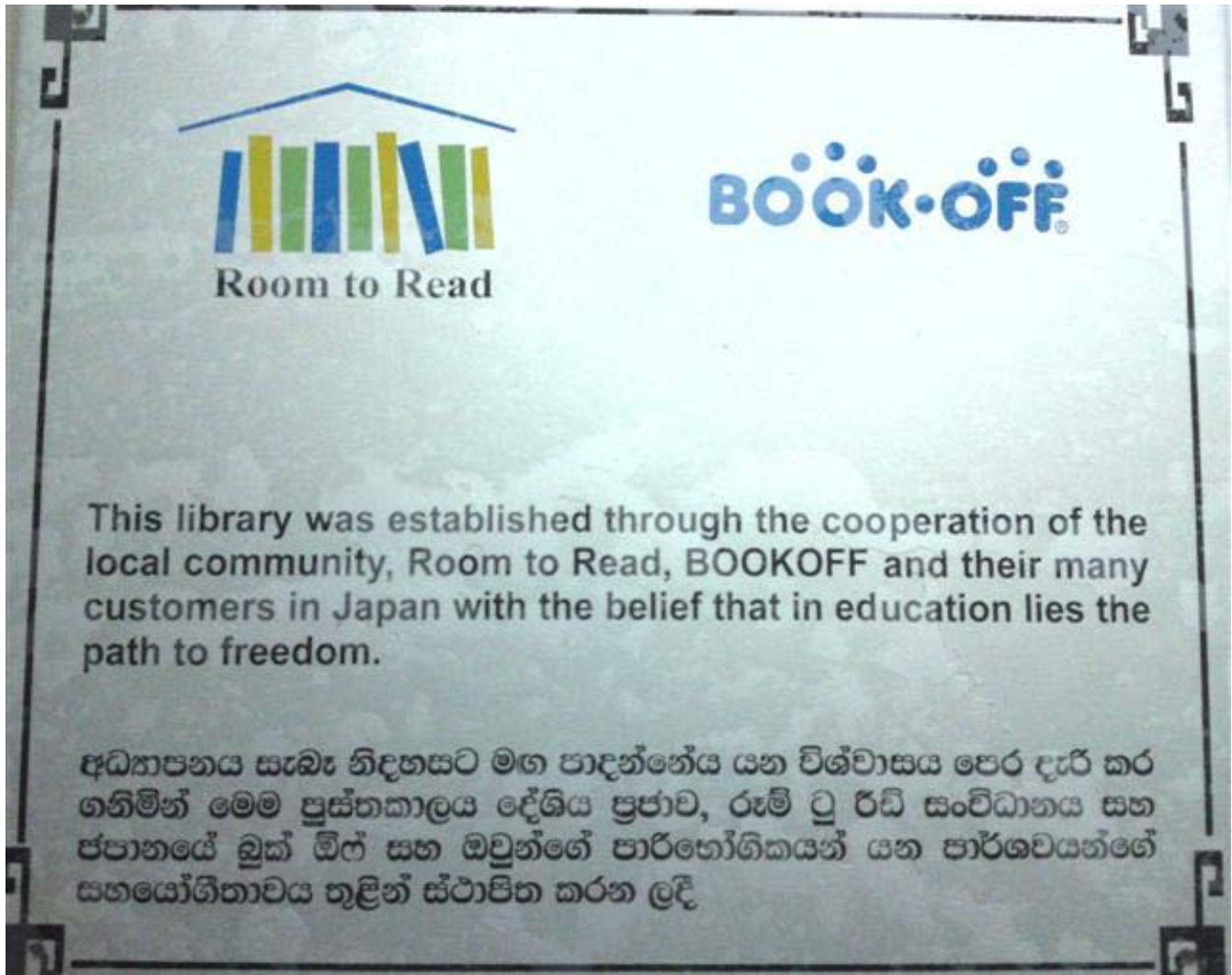
### Trainings

Book selection; Library activities; Library set-up / management

Basic Construction Techniques; Building Maintenance; Early Childhood Education; Financial Management; Water and Sanitation

## Comments

During the opening ceremony, "the Principal and President of the construction committee, Mr. S. Kumara Dissanayaka, said, "Our library used to be in a corner of the science laboratory with only a few books. As we did not have much space and materials, we could not encourage the children to read during their spare time. Due to the support from Room to Read, today we have a space well suited for the children for reading. As the parents were also involved in the construction of the Reading Room, I'm certain that they we will all pay more attention to the childrens activities and encourage good Reading habits. We thank Room to Read and the donors who have been kind and considerate in providing our children with such a valuable gift."



The dedication plaque on display at the Constructed Reading Room.



The Constructed Reading Room has a large area in which the children can read.



The finished Constructed Reading Room.



Room to Read provided shelves and many books.



The building is painted in bright colors, making it a child-friendly space.



These children have selected books in their local language.



The children also enjoy reading on the veranda.



This students can't wait to read all of the books provided by Room to Read.