

# Renovation of Duraiappah Stadium in Jaffna



## Scope of the Project:

Government of India approved a Project in 2014 for the renovation of Duraiappah Stadium under the India-Sri Lanka MoU on Small Development Projects. The stadium is a major landmark in Jaffna and named in honour of a former Mayor of Jaffna, the Late Mr. Alfred Thambirajah Duraiappah. The stadium was the main center of sporting activity in Northern Province but years of



neglect due to ongoing civil war for three decades led to non-maintenance and abandonment of facilities. Its renovation assumed importance in terms of ensuring return to normalcy and to support sporting activity in the Province. It will assist in bringing normalcy of life to the Northern Province. The renovation of Duraiappah Stadium is a landmark project in Jaffna. The renovation work involved included (i) renovation of the Pavilion; (ii) Playground, Gym and Office; (iii) planting grass and underground water sprinkler system; (iv) construction of toilet blocks, fencing and gate; (v) installation of external lighting system; (vi) car park; and (vii) landscaping.

**Project Cost:** SLR 145 million (INR 7.1 Crore)

**Project Status:** Completed (2014-16)

**Beneficiaries:** The renovated Stadium will benefit about 50,000 students from different schools and educational institutions in the Northern Province by providing modern infrastructure for sports and recreational activities. It will also encourage the overall development of youth of the Northern Province and in Sri Lanka at large.

### **Implementing Partners:**

1. Ministry of Urban Development & Sacred Area Development
2. Ministry of Finance and Planning
3. Ministry of Sports
4. Presidential Task Force for Resettlement, Development and Security in the Northern Province
5. Northern Provincial Council
6. Urban Development Authority of GoSL

### **Modality of Implementation:**

The project was implemented under the Small Development Project (SDP).

**Inauguration** :To commemorate this special occasion, Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India joined, through digital video conferencing, H. E. Mr. .Maithripala Sirisena, President of Sri Lanka, at the renovated Duraiappah Stadium on June 18, 2016 to dedicate it to the people of Sri Lanka. The International Day of Yoga 2016 was also celebrated on the occasion, with the participation of thousands of Jaffna residents.



**Impact** : The stadium now will address lack of opportunities for sports, recreational and cultural activities in the area. It will also allow local young talent to have access to modern sporting facilities and facilitate overall physical development of the young population in the area.