



Vienna / Cuttack, December 2008

Dear Friends of **Hand in Hand**!

Almost three months have gone by since the terrible flood catastrophe in Orissa (India), and only now the authorities have the situation in those areas under control. Thanks to the combined efforts of non-governmental organisations such as the **Prajnana Mission** and **Hand in Hand**, the further spreading of epidemics can be avoided. Unfortunately the danger is still present and we continue to give the Prajnana Mission our support in organizing Health Camps in the devastated areas. **Wells and water springs are polluted and therefore the Health Camps distribute, besides medicines, chlorine tablets and water disinfectants for free.**



A village destroyed by the floods

The following actions are planned and should be implemented over the coming weeks by the Prajnana Mission, in those villages destroyed by the floods in the District of Kendrapara:

- **financial support of the reconstruction of schools and other buildings**
- **supply of seeds, saplings, fertilizers, as well as the necessary agricultural tools for the farmers who have lost everything to the floods**

We are able to provide this type of costly help only to a limited number of cases, because the running of the **Health Centers** and of the **Mobile Medical and Dental Unit (MMDU)** also needs to be sustained and supported.

We kindly ask you to continue supporting us so that we are able to carry on providing adequate help towards the flood catastrophe, and the Health Projects!

Please turn over



HAND IN HAND
Organisation for Humanitarian Aid
1120 Vienna, Austria / Europe
Pohlgasse 10 / 4 / 7
ZVR N° 622 986 022

Contact Info:
Phone: +43 650 702 60 50
Fax: +43 2253 804 62
info@handinhand.at
www.handinhand.at

Bank Details: Erste Bank Baden
Account Number: 4100211 8574
Bank Sort Code: 20111
IBAN: AT452011141002118574
BIC: GIBAATWW

The **Balashram Residential School** we are sponsoring is situated in the disaster area, however none of the 200 children was harmed by the floods, nor any campus building was damaged. The fact that the school is not situated near water saved it.



The Balashram children enjoy their playtime

At present, besides a few who are suffering from milder diseases such as the flu, almost all boys and girls are in good health. Next January a **Medical Camp** will take place at Balashram at which several specialized doctors (paediatric, surgeon, child psychiatrist, doctors specializing in health prevention and social care) will give all children a thorough check up.

All five classes had exams in November and most of the results were excellent. Twenty-five boys and girls are to receive personal additional support to help them prepare for their final exams in March, though.

The construction works on the school campus are progressing: This year the **boys' quarters** will get a roof and the flooring on the second level of the **girls' quarters**, as well as two stair cases, will be completed. The flooring works on the second level of the **school building** will start shortly. All building works should be finished by 2009.

Please help with your donations to allow us to complete, finally, all building works at the Balashram school campus!

On behalf of Hand in Hand I wish you and your family a Blessed Holiday and a Happy Year in 2009!

Peter van Breukelen (President of Hand in Hand)

PS: Please always provide your address when you make your donation!



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