

## 50 houses Project of the Galle Advisory Board. (1st Home Owner Story)

Name Of the Beneficiary - SH Nishanthi.

Address – No. 231 A, Henawatta, Aththiligoda, Galle.

GPS Reading - N: 06°02'59.4" E: 080°13'59.1"

### Family details

1. KG Ranjith – (father) 44 years - Three wheeler driver.
2. SH Nishanthi – (mother) 39 years - working as a machine operator at a garment factory.
3. KG Dilini Lakshika – (older daughter) 21 years- working as a machine operator at a garments factory.
4. KG Shiromi Lakshari – (second daughter) 19 years- Schooling, sat for the A/L examination recently. Won the all island cultural dancing championship twice.
5. Shanaka Madhushanka – (only son) 12 years - Schooling. Grade 7.
6. KG Ishani Sewwandi – (third daughter) 11 years - Schooling. Grade 6.



*The family alongside their old, substandard house*

My husband, four children and I, lived in this wooden hut for almost 10 years. It was very difficult to live in this house because it is on the verge of collapse. During the rainy season we use to leave this house and seek shelter in several other safe places in the neighborhood. We have spent many a night without sleep. During rain, water pours in to the house through the broken roof. The corner posts of the house are perished and about to collapse. It was our dream to build a new house & to live in it, so we collected materials little by little, but did not have the money or strength to build it. It was such a harsh life, having to live in this small (10' x 11') broken house with our young children.

The idea of building our own house was only a dream to me, I heard about an organization called Habitat for Humanity. I got together with a group to get into the housing project of Habitat and got involved in the program. Instead of building our house according to our previous plan, Habitat introduced a simple and affordable plan to build our house.

It was our fortune that we joined with Habitat and we were able to lay the foundation for three rooms, a living room, kitchen and bathroom. We managed to build two rooms and a bathroom on that foundation, with the help of the interest free loan scheme provided by Habitat at the first stage.

We are very thankful to Habitat and the donor, Mr. Patrick Thur, for helping us immensely to build our house. We feel that our dream has come true and we are living in a safe house today.



*The Home Owner Family with the National President, Rev. Lokendra Abeyratne & Some Staff Members.*

The foundation was laid for 657 sq.ft & as the first stage two rooms & a bathroom was built on 227 sq.ft of area.