

**BUILDING COMMUNITIES**

# Education in Vellore, South India

*Renovating school buildings in the Diocese of Vellore*

*‘Your donations, together with locally-raised money, will help to support vital education.’*

Subash Chellaiah, USPG Link Officer for Asia and Oceania



**India** factfile

**Capital:** New Delhi  
**Languages:** Hindi, English and at least 16 other official languages  
**Religion:** Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Sikhism, Buddhism, Jainism  
**Export:** Agricultural products, textile goods, gems and jewellery, software services and technology, engineering goods, chemicals, leather products  
**Life expectancy:** 63 years (men), 66 years (women) (UN)

**USPG in South India**

USPG supports Mission Evangelism and Dialogue, Training and Theological education, and short-term development projects since 2001



## About this Project...

▶ **Target: £2,610 / €3,000 | Project 526**

Vellore Diocese covers the state boundaries of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, which means it is a bilingual diocese (with both Tamil and Telugu languages spoken). The Christians who live in this predominantly rural region suffer hardships and poverty, with more than 90 per cent of them belonging to oppressed Dalit communities [formerly known as ‘untouchables’]. The Diocese of Vellore is the youngest diocese in the Church of South India, having been created in 1976 out of the western half of Madras Diocese as part of a policy for establishing smaller dioceses or provide more efficient pastoral care and administration. The focus of the diocese is on education, healthcare and community

development, aimed especially at the rural poor. One particular challenge facing the diocese is a need to repair outdated school buildings. Renovation work was started, but had to stop due to a lack of funds. As a result, the diocese has asked USPG to support schools in the villages of Melvisharam and Vannanthangal. These are the only primary schools in the area, and therefore the only source of education for children aged between 5 and 10 years old. Both schools are in severe disrepair and in need of immediate renovation, so much so that teachers have had to take classes, under trees for shelter. Your donation to this project will help to fund renovation work, including plastering and new floors, doors, windows and lighting.

▶ **Project supporters will receive three newsletters a year and other resources to help promote your Project.**

To fund this Project contact our Supporter Care team

Registered charity  
 in England (234518) and in Ireland (CHY 7998)



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Your donations will help us to cover the full costs of the Project, including a direct grant to the partner church and the cost of monitoring the Project and sharing regular news. Any money received over the Project target will be allocated to where the need is greatest.