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2005 NEWS ROUND-UP



TSUNAMI – ONE YEAR ON

The **Asia Bus Response** initiative became the largest and most successful charitable project ever run by the UK and Eire bus and coach industries, sending 100+ donated buses to the areas worst affected by the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami.

With the assistance of charity Islamic Relief, the mid-life, low-tech vehicles, from minibuses to double deckers, were shipped from Southampton to provide educational access for tsunami affected children in Banda Ache, Indonesia and Galle in Sri Lanka.

“The buses donated to Sri Lanka through Asia Bus Response have been distributed among the tsunami affected areas. Your organisation, by way of donating buses, has rendered invaluable contribution in rebuilding the tsunami damaged transport infrastructure and providing tremendous assistance to thousands of affected people.”

Hon. Jeyaraj Fernandopulle MP

Minister of Trade, Commerce & Highways, Government of Sri Lanka

“I’m immensely proud of the bus operators and suppliers who contributed to the Asia Bus Response appeal. Setting aside corporate goals, their donated buses have helped people thousands of miles away to rebuild their communities and allow traumatised children to return to education.”

Mitch de Faria

Asia Bus Response Coordinator

ENDS

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Editor’s Notes:

The voluntary Asia Bus Response initiative has sent 100+ buses, from double-deckers to minibuses, for use by children in the areas worst affected by the tsunami. At Banda Ache in Indonesia the buses are used as mobile classrooms and in Galle, Sri Lanka, ABR buses transport children to school away from the coastal plateau. For full details visit www.asiabusresponse.co.uk.

Asia Bus Response was conceived and coordinated by Mitch de Faria at The Event Makers Ltd.

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