



## **Security policy**

Shining Life Children's Trust recognises that Sri Lanka is a volatile country. This policy has been written to provide guidance and reassurance to Shining Life Field Directors and Trustees as to how to work safely in Sri Lanka.

### **General guidance**

At all times SLCT will be guided by advice given by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office regarding travel in Sri Lanka. This can be found at [www.fco.gov.uk](http://www.fco.gov.uk). In practice this means that SLCT prohibits Field Directors and others undertaking Trust business to travel to areas to which the Foreign office advises against travelling to.

In cases where the Field Director is a national of another country, SLCT will also monitor the travel advice given by the other country's counterpart of the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

The Field Director must comply with all Sri Lankan government and security force instructions.

### **Registration**

The Field Director must register with the British High Commission in Colombo within 2 weeks of arrival in Sri Lanka.

In cases where the Field Director is a national of another country, the Field Director should follow the advice of that country's counterpart to the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

### **Repatriation**

If the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office advises British nationals to leave Sri Lanka SLCT will immediately make arrangements to repatriate the Field Director to the UK at the expense of SLCT. The Field Director will not be allowed to return to Sri Lanka, or a replacement Field Director to return, until the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office advises it is again safe to travel to Sri Lanka.

If at any time the Field Director believes that they are unsafe working in Sri Lanka, SLCT will repatriate the Field Director at the expense of SLCT.

### **Transport**

The Field Director will generally use public transport to visit projects and undertake Trust business. However the Field Director should never put him/herself in a position where he/she does not feel safe. If the Field Director does not believe it is safe to travel by public transport, either as a result of terrorism or general personal safety, he/she should:

- use private transport or
- postpone the visit to such time as it is safe.

### **Personal safety**

Violent crimes against foreigners are relatively infrequent, although there have been reports of sexual offences and muggings. On most occasions the Field Director will be travelling round Sri Lanka alone and is therefore at heightened risk and should exercise appropriate caution. To minimise the risk the Field Director should:

- at all times follow the safety advice given by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office
- take sensible precautions to safeguard valuables, especially passports and money
- travel in daylight where ever possible
- when travelling alone use main roads wherever possible
- be aware when divulging the office address that this is also the personal accommodation of the Field Director and so do so with caution
- when using the accommodation for personal reasons be aware that this is also the office of the Charity.

### **General**

The Field Director should take any further actions he/she believes necessary to ensure personal security at all times.

### **Irish nationals**

Irish nationals should register with the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (<http://dfa.ie/home/index.aspx?id=40332>).

Diplomatic representation for Sri Lanka is handled by the embassy in India in New Delhi.

There is an Honorary Consul, Manik Pereira  
Address: Honorary Consul of Ireland  
35 Edward Lane, Colombo 3, Sri Lanka  
Telephone: 0094 11 2587 895  
Fax: 0094 11 4517 589

Travel advice for Sri Lanka can be found at:  
<http://www.dfa.ie/home/index.aspx?id=8503>