



Situation Report 2 Multi-dimensional Crisis in Sri Lanka

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15:00



SITUATION UPDATE AND RESPONSE

Situation in Sri Lanka

- Sri Lanka is facing record high inflation, price spikes, and depleting fuel stocks, leading to an economic contraction amid political challenges.
- The population continues to feel the brunt of the economic and food crises, as food inflation soars to a staggering 80 percent in June 2022.
- An alarming 6.3 million people (about 3 in 10 households) are now food insecure, according to preliminary findings from WFP and FAO's joint Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission. Of this number, 66,000 people are severely food insecure.
- The majority of households (61 percent) are regularly using food-based coping strategies such as eating less preferred, less nutritious food, and cutting back on food portions. About 6.7 million people are not consuming adequate diets and 5.3 million people are reducing the number of meals eaten.
- Food security situation is worse in the estate sector. While urban households are depleting savings to cope for now, estate populations are already turning to credit in order to purchase food and other essentials.
- Minister of Power and Energy Kanchana Wijesekera has said that Sri Lanka will restrict fuel imports for the next 12 months as it is facing a severe shortage of foreign exchange,
- Sri Lanka has asked China to help with trade, investment, and tourism to help it grow sustainably.
- With the significantly low agricultural production unable to cover domestic requirements, imported staples like wheat flour, canned fish, milk powder and lentils are either unavailable or exorbitantly priced.
- About 73 per cent of households reported either losing their source of income or having their income reduced
- About 66.8 per cent of households in the estate sector do not have access to safe drinking water sources.

Situation Updates



People need assistance - 6.3M



People who need essential medicine- 1.97M



People who need food - 4.9M including 238000 pregnant and lactating women



People who need protection - 960000



Students who need support for education - 1.2M



People who need nutrition- 2.43M



People who need drinking water - 2.6M



People who need agricultural and livelihood support - 3.45M

Humanitarian Response

NGO Preparedness and Response

Response:

- Asia Pacific Alliance for Disaster Management Sri Lanka (A-PAD SL) has been actively supporting the government and private sector's efforts and initiatives.
- HSBC Sri Lanka and A-PAD SL initiated a program to support 500 school children in districts most affected by the crisis by providing them with school supplies and stationary, while parallelly providing their families with rations for a period of 3 months.
- To address the issue of medicine shortages, HSBC SL with A-PAD SL coordinated with the Disaster Management Centre (DMC) and Prime Minister's Secretariat to provide vital and essential medicine to the Ministry of Health (MoH).
- A-PAD Bangladesh, in partnership with Community Initiative Society (CIS) and Dhaka Community Hospital Trust (DCHT), provided significant support for the procurement of pediatric oncology priorities, with special consideration for the health and safety of the children of Sri Lanka.
- Sri Lanka Red Cross Society distributed Over 10,000 dry ration food packs and 4000 cash grants in 25 districts of the county, 5000 school packs have been given out in 10 districts. Clean water is being provided to those queuing for days for fuel and food parcels for 10,000 families in four districts. SLRCS is working closely with Ministry of Health to provide essential medicines that are currently in short supply to hospitals.



A-PAD Bangladesh extends their support via the donation of essential medicines to the MoH with the coordinated efforts of A-PAD SL and the Prime Minister's Secretariat



Vaddukachchi G.M.M School - Aggopura



Source of Information:

OCHA report, WFP report, APAD, Red Cross, The Economic Times

Key Contacts:

Mr. Altamash Khan, Program Coordinator, Sphere India
M No.: +919718073951 E: altamash@sphereindia.org.in