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Sarvodaya Appeal for Life-Saving Assistance Emergency Response to Sri Lankan Humanitarian Crisis

Sri Lanka is facing a humanitarian crisis of unprecedented scale and complexity.

The collapsing economy and failure of agriculture due to the non-availability of fertilizer have affected food availability. The food shortage and rapidly escalating food prices (57% food inflation, May 2022) have forced people to reduce food intake and switch to low-nutritional food. The government has suspended or curtailed the existing food and nutrition assistance programs.

The information recently shared by the United Nations draws a gloomy picture, and the situation is expected to deteriorate further.

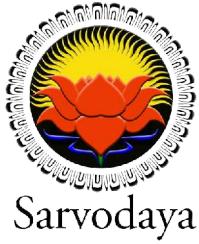
People in need:

- 4.9 million face food shortage
- 2.4 million face nutrient deficiency
- 3.4 million affected in agriculture and livelihood

The impending food shortage will have a devastating effect on society: severe medical and health issues such as stillbirths, stunted growth, cognitive impairment, mental conditions; social unrest, domestic and gender violence, abuse of unprotected children, and marginalized segments in the society; rising crimes, erosion of public safety and security and law and order. Thus, mitigating food and nutrition insecurity through humanitarian assistance is imperative to stabilize the society until Sri Lanka is back on its feet.

We, SARVODAYA Movement in Sri Lanka and Sarvodaya USA, have launched an emergency response program to improve the situation by providing food assistance. We distribute dry-rations, assist community kitchens, provide mid-day meals to preschool children who cannot meet their food requirements, and encourage food production. Our program has so far, [June 2022] assisted over 200,000 affected Sri Lankan citizens. Presently the program is funded by – individual donors, bi-lateral development partners, expatriate Sri Lankan community, and a consortium of local and international corporates. In addition, many individuals are volunteering their time and providing in-kind assistance.

Please visit <https://sarvodayausa.org/donations/donate/> (Sarvodaya USA) and <https://www.sarvodaya.org/weareone> (Sarvodaya Movement, Sri Lanka) for further information.



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Emergency Response to Sri Lankan Humanitarian Crisis**

We plan to scale our humanitarian program to provide sustained assistance for 500,000 people for twelve months. The target citizens will be the neediest families, pregnant and lactating mothers, pediatric-age children, and those unable to pay for medicines for critical illnesses.

We are reaching out to you to seek contributions from your community, your colleagues and associates, and your family and friends to help to mitigate food and nutrition insecurity. We are here to provide any further information or materials you may require, including speaking (virtually or a pre-recorded message) at fund-raising events.

Contributions can be channeled through <https://sarvodayausa.org/donations/donate/> (Sarvodaya USA) and <https://www.sarvodaya.org/weareone> (Sarvodaya Movement, Sri Lanka).

We earnestly look forward to your contribution towards providing life-saving assistance to people facing hunger, malnutrition, and resulting medical conditions.

Yours in humanitarian service,

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