

Sarvodaya Movement Cyclone Ditwah Emergency Situation and Rapid Response Report 2 (as of 6pm on 5th December 2025)



This report covers the period from 6 pm 30th November 2025, to 5th December 2025.

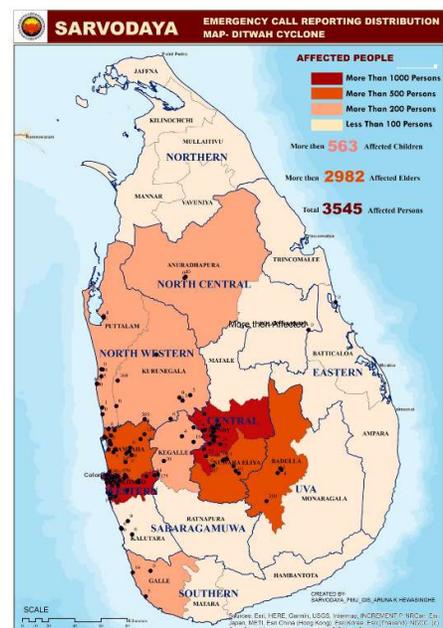
Highlights

- Sarvodaya continued the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) since 26th November. More volunteer staff gathered to support the efforts.
- So far, we have coordinated and responded to an additional 1,448 people, 265 families, and 184 children through the call centre operations.
- Established a new temporary kitchen in Yakkala, Gampaha.
- A total of 15,242 people received cooked food/dry rations/hygiene packs.
- Sarvodaya Response and Relief has so far directly impacted 11 Districts and reached over 21,822 persons. Our work has also reached the most needed hospital facilities in Mahiyangana and Chilaw.

Total Affected
2,082,195 persons
43,715 families
Deaths: 607
Missing: 214

Safety Centers
1211

Disaster Management Centre, 6th December 2025



Situation Overview

Cyclone Ditwah has created one of the most significant humanitarian challenges Sri Lanka has faced in recent decades. As documented by the Disaster Management Centre (DMC), nearly two million people have been affected, with families displaced, homes damaged, and essential infrastructure compromised. The high number of missing individuals highlights the severity of the disaster, reflecting both the scale of flooding and the disruptions to communication. More than 1,200 safety centres have been established, yet many remain overcrowded and under-resourced. These figures underscore the urgency of ongoing relief efforts and the importance of sustained multi-agency collaboration to stabilize affected communities.

Over the period from 30th November to 5th December, Sarvodaya's emergency response has demonstrated the strength of its national presence and the speed of its community-based networks. The continued operation of the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) enabled efficient coordination, rapid verification of needs, and clear communication between districts and headquarters. Every call received by the EOC was addressed, reflecting Sarvodaya's commitment to ensuring that no one is left behind. During this period, a new temporary community kitchen was established in Yakkala, Gampaha District, to support severely

affected communities. As new vulnerable areas emerge, Sarvodaya continued to expand its assistance, collaborating with partners, delivering hot meals, dry rations, and emergency supplies—showcasing its capacity to mount large-scale, coordinated relief efforts even in challenging and unpredictable conditions.

Funding

As of now, Sarvodaya has received Rs. 21 million in financial contributions. Of this, Rs. 5.022 million has been utilized for essential relief operations, leaving a balance of Rs. 16.267 million dedicated to continuing humanitarian activities. In-kind donations including water, dry food, rice, and sanitary kits, have also been received and distributed to affected communities.

Sarvodaya remains committed to delivering timely and effective support as the situation evolves.

Humanitarian Response

- Rescue and Relief Transportation
- Emergency Operations Call Centre
- Emergency Medical Services
- Temporary Community Kitchen
- Sarvodaya Shramadana Societies
- Coordination Meeting and Donor Support
- Volunteer Support



Rescue and Relief Transportation

Response:

- Rescue operations continued through boats and transport essential supplies. Direct Sarvodaya rescue so far: 92, and a total of 750 by all authorities in collaboration.
- Utilized 3 boats coordinated with local authorities and partners.

Gaps:

- Areas under water and issues to access
- New areas affected and people stranded and needing water and food
- Monsoon winds and rains

750/92
This figure may increase or decrease



Emergency Operations Call Centre

Sarvodaya Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) received 44 emergency calls, which reached more than 1,488 affected individuals. Operating 24/7, the EOC team comprising trained staff and volunteers, responded to each call, assessed urgent needs, and coordinated timely support.

1,488
Affected population



Hot Meals/Dry Rations/Water/Hygiene Packs

During the 5 day period ending 5th December, Sarvodaya continued its intensive relief efforts across the most affected areas. Within this timeframe, the organization distributed 6,710 food packets, 336 ration packs, and 321 sanitary and medicine packs to families in need. Additionally, Sarvodaya supplied 7,875 water bottles and 18,000 litres of water to hospitals and other facilities serving large groups of people. These efforts ensured that critical necessities reached vulnerable communities swiftly and effectively.

15,242

Persons

18,000l

Water



Emergency Medical Services

- As part of its ongoing emergency response, Sarvodaya deployed two medical teams during the reporting period to provide much-needed healthcare support in affected communities. One team was assigned to New Gothatuwa Mahinda Vidyalaya, where 1 doctor and 6 volunteers worked together to assist 9 individuals, including 3 women and 6 men.
- A second team operated at Dharmapala School in Kotikawatta, consisting of 2 doctors and 8 volunteers. Their efforts enabled them to treat 83 people, among them 26 women and 57 men. Altogether, the two teams provided medical care to 92 individuals, ensuring timely support for those in need during this challenging period.

92

Affected population in need of health assistance

Sarvodaya Shramadana Societies

The total number of Sarvodaya Shramadana Societies (SSS) affected stands at 230. Currently, the SSS in non-affected areas are supporting the severely affected communities.

230

8/12/2025 Morning



Coordination Meeting and Donor Support

Sarvodaya continued to engage at national and district levels.

#Sarvodaya represented the CSO collective participating at the Health Cluster of UN Humanitarian Team convened by the WHO and co-chaired by the Director General of Health Services. We are honoured that Sarvodaya President, Dr. Vinya Ariyaratne will serve as a Co-Chair. The health cluster will coordinate support among health sector partners to enable a streamlined response.

National Mechanisms

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/17xL3uyyoV/>



Sarvodaya actively contributed to the Joint Rapid Needs Assessment carried out by the Disaster Management Centre (DMC), UN clusters, and civil society organizations. Through this collaboration, the first Rapid Needs Assessment was completed. A more detailed second assessment is scheduled to begin on 9th

December, and Sarvodaya teams will be supporting and participating in this effort as well.

In parallel, Sarvodaya took part in the UN-led cluster discussions, including the Food and Nutrition Cluster, the Health Cluster, and the Cash-Based Transfers (CBT) Cluster, helping to coordinate and align response strategies. At the district level, Sarvodaya's teams worked closely with Provincial and District Health and Relief Services, as well as District Secretaries, ensuring that urgent needs in affected areas were identified and addressed promptly. Through these collaborative efforts, Sarvodaya continues to play a key role in delivering timely and effective humanitarian assistance.

In addition, Sarvodaya received significant media attention for its humanitarian efforts. The organization was featured in high-profile national and international outlets, including interviews on Rupavahini and coverage by The Hindu and The New York Times, highlighting Sarvodaya's role in the ongoing emergency response.



Volunteer Support

Sarvodaya continued to demonstrate strong community mobilization during the disaster response. Building on its extensive grassroots network, the organization activated local youth groups, REACT team members and community leaders to support temporary relief and response operations on the ground.

285

Volunteers

A total of 285 volunteers were mobilized across the affected districts, including teams from Gampaha and Badulla. Among them were trained lifesavers, volunteer medical officials, whose expertise helped ensure the efficient and timely delivery of essential relief services and community volunteers. Their collective efforts played a vital role in reaching affected communities quickly and effectively.

Priorities (Immediate)

1. Hospital support and temporary medicine camps
2. Drinking water
3. Kitchen and Housing Utensils and community kitchens
4. Sanitizing House Cleaning when people are back in their homes
5. Cleaning of wells; WASH facilities implementation
6. Special focus on pregnant mothers and children
7. Village resettlements

For further information, please contact:

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