

# Situation Report

Country: Sri Lanka

Emergency: Cyclone Ditwah

## A. Location Details

1. Date and Time of Incident	<p>Cyclone Ditwah has placed Sri Lanka in the midst of a rapidly escalating disaster. Widespread flooding has inundated major districts, several rivers have risen beyond critical levels, and landslides have destroyed numerous homes, forcing thousands of people into emergency shelters. Although weather conditions have improved in some areas, 233,015 individuals remain displaced, and 1,441 are currently residing in safety centres across the island.</p> <p>The statistics as of 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025 at 06pm IST are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ No. of affected individuals: <b>1,466,615</b></li><li>➤ No. of individuals missing: <b>336</b></li><li>➤ No. of Deaths: <b>410</b></li></ul>
2. Emergency Type	Cyclone Ditwah
3. Country/Province/Prefecture/ Districts affected:	<b>Sri Lanka</b> All 25 districts
4. Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Meteorology Department has issued a special warning that the Northeast monsoon is expected to gradually establish over the island in the coming days. As a result, rainfall is likely to increase from 4<sup>th</sup> December, particularly across the Northern, North-Central, Eastern, Uva, and Central provinces.</li><li>• The Irrigation Department has reported that water levels in the Kelani River are steadily receding, leading to a gradual easing of flooding in low-lying areas of the river basin. Officials also noted that water levels in other major rivers and reservoirs, including the Kalu Ganga and Malwathu Oya, are declining.</li><li>• The Cabinet has approved the establishment of the 'Rebuilding Sri Lanka' Fund, aimed at supporting the country's recovery from the severe devastation caused by Cyclone Ditwah.</li><li>• The Education Ministry has announced that the remaining GCE Advanced Level examinations will be held in early January 2026. All scheduled examinations had previously been postponed indefinitely due to the ongoing disaster situation.</li><li>• A tragic landslide struck Udawatte Nelum Mal Village in the remote hills of Minipe on 27 November. Of the village's 16 houses, 12 were completely destroyed, burying families under debris. Authorities and local</li></ul>

	<p>residents have recovered 22 bodies from the site so far.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sri Lanka Customs has announced that all foreign aid consignments will be released duty-free, exempt from customs and other taxes. The initiative, approved by the Ministry of Finance, ensures a streamlined process for humanitarian assistance. Importers are instructed to address consignments to: “Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Disaster Management Centre, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 07.”</li> <li>• The Road Development Authority (RDA) reported that heavy rainfall and flooding have disrupted transportation on at least 108 roads nationwide in recent days.</li> <li>• A flight carrying humanitarian aid from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) arrived in Sri Lanka. The consignment includes essential food items, safety kits, and tents for communities impacted by the disaster.</li> <li>• UNICEF has delivered nearly 25,000 kilograms of chlorine for water purification, sufficient to support 500,000 families. This initial shipment is a critical step in helping the districts hardest hit by Cyclone Ditwah restore access to clean water and prevent waterborne disease outbreaks.</li> <li>• According to UNICEF Sri Lanka reports over 275,000 children have been affected by Cyclone Ditwah. The cyclone caused widespread flooding and landslides, creating an urgent humanitarian crisis, and the true number of affected children may be higher due to disrupted communications and inaccessible areas.</li> </ul> <p>Sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Newsfirst</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Ada Derana</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Department of Meteorology</a></li> </ul>
5. Reported By:	A-PAD Sri Lanka

**B. Reporting Period**

1. Report Number:	005
2. Report Date:	2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2025
3. Time Period Covered:	1 <sup>st</sup> – 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2025

Please note: sections C-E together should be no more than 200 words total.

**C. Immediate Needs***Description of ground needs or as indicated by partners (subject to verification)*

- Essential items: megaphones, rescue ropes, rechargeable electric lamps, life-saving tubes, safety helmets, submersible water pumps, boat engines (over 40 HP), electric saws, generators, boots, life jackets, portable toilets, mini excavators, and essential fertilizers such as Urea, TSP, and MOP.
- Critical recovery needs: rehabilitation of assets and infrastructure, restarting aquaculture and hatcheries, strengthening the cold and value chain, financial and institutional support

**D. Humanitarian Response / Deployment***Description of humanitarian activities by A-PAD partners*

- A-PAD SL is closely monitoring the situation and is in contact with Disaster Management Centre (DMC), National Building Research Organization (NBRO) to gather more information to aid.
- A Sri Lanka Air Force Bell 412 helicopter departed Ratmalana Airport, carrying essential supplies for the Sirasa Shakthi Sahana Yathra Flood Relief initiative, provided by Maharaja Media Network, a partner of A-PAD SL. The consignment is headed to Maldeniya in Nuwara Eliya, one of the hardest areas hit by recent floods and landslides.
- Air Force personnel from the A-PAD Search and Rescue team successfully evacuated a family trapped in a house flooded by rising waters to safety.
- A-PAD SL participated in the Sri Lanka Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) meeting, which focused on preparations for a development partner briefing and reviewing critical updates from the field.
- A Development Partners Meeting was convened which focused on health, nutrition, and WASH facilities, impact and needs analysis, and urgent requirements identified during the cluster meeting.
- During the Civil Society Collective meeting, the importance of coordinated disaster relief and better collaboration with government structures was emphasized to avoid overlapping initiatives. It was proposed that the Essential Services Commissioner General issue a directive to streamline cooperation between state agencies and CSOs, following the 3R framework—Relief, Recovery, and Reconstruction.

**E. Gaps & Constraints***Description of the unmet needs*

- Several hospitals remain flooded, with structural damage and disrupted water supply.
- Elevated risk of waterborne diseases.
- Limited network coverage is hindering the collection of data on damage and needs.
- Increased mental health concerns due to prolonged stress, trauma, and displacement.
- Major water supply schemes, treatment plants, and rural systems are damaged or submerged, causing severe service interruptions.
- Critical sanitation issues, particularly affecting women, girls, and pregnant women.
- Evacuation centres lack child-friendly supplies, safety measures, and psychosocial support.
- People with disabilities face damaged assistive devices, inaccessible shelters, unsafe evacuation routes, higher injury risks, and lack of accessible communication.

## PHOTOS



Houses collapsed due to adverse weather conditions, Daily Mirror



Community members helping elderly residents reach safe locations, Daily Mirror



Air Force airlifting donations collected through the Sirasa Shakthi campaign, Newsfirst



Recovered bodies in remote Minipe village, Newsfirst