



SitRep n°	#4	Reporting period	26 – 30 November 2025 ¹
SitRep Date	Sunday, 30 November 2025	Estimated number of people affected	1,000,000 people
IFRC Operation n°	n/a	Category allocated to the disaster or crisis	n/a
Total people targeted	n/a	Start date of the operation	n/a
Total people reached (cumulative)	n/a	Expected end date	n/a

¹ Sitrep will be produced daily until 5 December, Friday where the frequency of the report will be reviewed based on the evolving situation.

Scope and scale, humanitarian conditions and evolution of disaster

Impact to date

The cyclone continues its northwestward track, affecting historically vulnerable regions². Significant infrastructure damage has been reported, with 41 houses destroyed and 666 houses partially damaged across affected districts. The actual figures are expected to rise as assessment teams gain access to remote and isolated areas. According to the Disaster Management Center update on 30 Nov 2025, Cyclone Ditwah unleashed torrential rainfall exceeding 200 mm within 24 hours across multiple districts, with some areas recording over 540 mm. The heavy downpours triggered catastrophic flash flooding in low-lying areas, particularly along major river basins

As of 28-30 November 2025, Cyclone Ditwah continued its north-northwestward trajectory away from Sri Lanka toward the northern coasts of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry in India. The Indian Meteorological Department issued red alerts for coastal regions in several southern Indian states expecting extremely heavy rainfall.

However, the Department of Meteorology warned that the situation will remain critical through 30 November 2025, as many parts of the island were likely to receive over 200 mm of additional rainfall, which could further elevate flood risks in multiple river basins. The Irrigation Department's Flood Warning Message remained valid until 3:00 PM on 30 November 2025, warning of ongoing high-risk flood conditions. Rainfall was expected to ease significantly by 30 November as the cyclone system moved away from Sri Lankan territory.

The government has declared state of emergency³, confirming that all the districts have been affected severely by the cyclone Ditwah.

No. of people HH and families affected	Situation update as of 30.11.2025 at 12.00pm	
	Affected Districts	: 25
	Total Affected Families	: 266,114
	Total Affected Persons	: 968,304
	Total Deaths	: 193
	Total Missing	: 228
	Total Safety Centers	: 1094
	Total Families in Centers	: 41,005
	Total Persons in Centers	:147,931
No. of families sheltering in temporary camps	The most severely impacted districts include Colombo (40,740 families , 174,255 persons. Gampaha (55,306 families, 211,719 persons), Mannar (24,313 families, 79,946 persons), Trincomalee (16,604 families 54,107 persons and Puttalam (36,098 families, 135,922 persons). Districts like Kandy report the highest fatalities (52 deaths, 105 missing and Badulla (71 deaths, 53 missing)	
	41,005 families in official safety shelters; More than 15,000 families staying with relatives	
	Road access is severely restricted in Badulla, Monaragala, Galle, Matara, and Polonnaruwa due to flooding, mudslides, and fallen trees; rail services are disrupted except Jaffna route.	
Humanitarian access status	Three major bridges—Moragahakanda Main Bridge, Elahera Bridge, and Kumara Ella Bridge—were completely washed away, cutting off vital transport	

² Department of Meteorology, Government of Sri Lanka. Red Alert: Deep Depression near Sri Lanka likely to intensify into Cyclone. Ada Derana, 27 November 2025. <https://www.adaderana.lk/news/115218>

³ <https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/Emergency-declared-Islandwide-Minister/108-326452>

	<p>routes and isolating communities in Matale, Polonnaruwa, Kurunegala, and Uva provinces. These routes are crucial for trade, agriculture, and relief convoy access.</p>
Security/Humanitarian Corridors	<p>No formal humanitarian corridors reported; military (Army, Navy, Air Force) deployed for rescue and logistics</p>
Communications	<p>DMC emergency hotline 117 operational; additional contacts: Colombo District DMC (0112434028), DMC Main Office (0112136136)</p> <p>SLRCS NHQ hotlines – (+94 11 2694487/ +94 11 2691095)</p>
Government actions	<p>DMC coordinating response; temporary evacuation centers established in worst-affected districts; continuous weather and landslide alerts issued; spill gate operations ongoing.</p> <p>The Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS) operates in close collaboration with the DMC, the Meteorological Department, the Irrigation Department and Divisional Secretariats to coordinate branch-level response and translate national alerts into community-level action. SLRCS branches work with district and divisional authorities to conduct rapid assessments, manage evacuation centers, distribute relief items and feed information back to the national coordination system.</p>
Latest situation on the ground	<p>The death toll has risen sharply to 193 people, with 228 still missing. The hardest-hit districts remain Badulla (71 deaths, 53 missing) and Kandy (52 deaths, 105 missing), where landslides continue to bury entire neighborhoods under mud.</p> <p>Ongoing flood threats despite cyclone departure</p> <p>Although Cyclone Ditwah has moved away toward India, major flood warnings remain in effect for the Kelani River (Hanwella, Nagalagam Street), Kalu River (Millakanda), Maha Oya (Badalagama) and Attanagalu Oya (Dunamale) as water levels continue rising due to upstream runoff. Parts of northern Colombo and low-lying areas along the Kelani are experiencing severe inundation, forcing ongoing evacuations.</p> <p>Infrastructure damage and access constraints</p> <p>Over 20,000 homes destroyed, 206 major roads blocked, and 10 bridges washed away continue to hamper relief distribution and leave remote communities cut off. Approximately one-third of the country remains without electricity or potable water due to downed power lines and flooded treatment facilities⁴.</p> <p>Government emergency measures</p> <p>President Dissanayake declared a state of emergency on 29 November to expedite relief, mobilize resources and streamline coordination, while increasing the dry ration allowance for displaced families from Rs. 1,800 to Rs. 2,100 per person per week. Over 24,000 troops from the tri-forces are deployed for rescue, road-clearing and relief operations, supported by helicopters from India and Japan⁵.</p>

⁴ <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/11/30/neighbourhoods-buried-under-mud-sri-lanka-floods-death-toll-rises-to-159>

⁵ <https://www.newswire.lk/2025/11/30/allowance-for-dry-rations-for-displaced-persons-increased/>

Volunteer and international response

Volunteer operations are underway, with community groups, religious institutions and citizens cooking meals and delivering supplies to trapped families. The United States has pledged USD 2 million, India has sent two search-and-rescue teams (80 personnel) and relief supplies, and Japan is preparing to deploy an assessment team⁶. -

Authorities warn that secondary landslides remain highly likely in saturated hill districts, while river levels may continue rising for 24–48 hours despite reduced rainfall. Schools remain closed until 16 December, and national examinations have been postponed indefinitely. The situation remains critical and dynamic, with humanitarian needs far exceeding available resources and access⁷

National Society strategy

Sri Lanka Red Cross Society has mobilized its branches and over 3,500 volunteers to conduct assessments and collect impact data across affected districts. Part of the volunteer teams have also been deployed to provide First Aid services. The National Headquarters has begun distributing essential household items; including drinking water, sanitary pads, dhal, sugar, hygiene products, towels, bed sheets, washing powder, and dry clothing to branches in landslide-affected districts to support impacted communities.

NS will be requesting IFRC-DREF to support with the initial response. The branches have initially requested to address WASH related needs to the affected people in the affected districts.

NS organized a coordination meeting with all branches this morning and provided guidance to the branch executive officers on the next steps. Needs were identified, and both technical and logistical arrangements have been made to reach the affected areas and assist the impacted individuals. Additionally, the branches have been asked to conduct an initial assessment and report on the most immediate needs by this evening.



SLRCS volunteers are in ground assessing the needs and supporting the vulnerable people to evacuate. (Photo; SLRCS)

Operational constraints and risks

Operational challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Search & Rescue Capacity - Continuing rescue operations for the 228 missing persons require additional support• Road access and logistics - Major Road closures in Badulla, Monaragala, Galle, Matara, and Polonnaruwa severely restrict humanitarian access• Shelter capacity - Need for additional non-food relief items (NFRIs) for host families providing informal shelter• Relief items dispatched from the SLRCS Headquarters (HNQ) warehouse in Colombo are experiencing significant delays and routes to affected districts due to damaged main routes, inundated roads and overflowing bridges.
Key risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Road access and logistics, Search & Rescue Capacity, Incomplete Damage Assessment by the Disaster Management Center.• Road closures and bridge failures severely restrict delivery of relief supplies to affected areas

⁶ <https://www.newswire.lk/2025/11/29/us-commits-usd-2-million-for-sri-lankas-urgent-flood-relief/>

⁷ <https://www.newswire.lk/2025/11/30/sri-lankas-weather-disaster-claims-193-lives-228-still-missing/>

- Limited real-time communication with remote communities due to power outages and telecommunications disruptions.
- Access-restricted areas and overwhelmed health services indicate needs for: Mobile medical teams for remote communities
- Medicine supplies and medical equipment and Mental health support services
- Disease surveillance and outbreak prevention (dengue, leptospirosis, diarrheal disease)

Sectors of intervention/cross-cutting key highlights

This section highlights the current identified needs based on 30 Nov 2025 compiled through various resources.

As off reporting, major river systems, including the Nilwala, Gin, Kalu, and Deduru Oya, are experiencing rising water levels, with localized flooding already reported in Galle, Matara, and Ratnapura. The Disaster Management Centre and Irrigation Department have issued formal flood warnings for multiple river basins, signaling heightened risk across affected regions.

Transport and power networks remain severely disrupted. Several key roads in Badulla, Monaragala, Galle, Matara, and Polonnaruwa are impassable due to flooding, mudslides, and fallen trees, limiting humanitarian access. Rail services have been suspended, with all night mail trains halted except the Jaffna route, impacting passenger and cargo movement. Power outages peaked at approximately 45,000 connections, with 28,000 restored, but significant disruptions persist amid adverse weather conditions.

Relief and Assessment

Key updates	Assessment Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLRCS Assessment: Ongoing across affected districts, with volunteers collecting impact data and priority needs. • Key Findings (So Far): Immediate needs include essential household items, safe water and sanitation, and health services at safety centers. • Damage Overview: Significant infrastructure damage reported, including roads, bridges, and health facilities. • Community Feedback: Initial feedback indicates gaps in assistance and unmet needs in remote areas. Relief Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer Deployment: All branches have mobilized NDRT and BDRT members, with volunteers actively assessing and supporting affected communities. • Access Challenges: Many remote areas remain inaccessible due to flooding and landslide hazards. Comprehensive assessments will resume once weather stabilizes and access is restored, particularly in the central highlands (Badulla, Nuwara Eliya, Kandy districts). • Weather Impact: Ongoing adverse conditions continue to limit field assessments and data collection.
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Shelter

Key updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals in Safety Shelters: 147,931 (organized in dedicated shelters managed by authorities) • Individuals Living with Relatives: more than 15,000 (informal arrangement due to shelter capacity constraints) •
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient temporary shelter structures, Capacity constraints in school buildings and community halls, Need for additional non-food relief items (NFRIs) for host families providing informal shelter, Protection concerns over-crowded facilities
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Livelihood & basic needs

Key updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Inundation: Large areas of paddy fields and seasonal crops have been inundated in Ampara, Batticaloa, Polonnaruwa, Kurunegala, and other districts. Crop damage assessments remain incomplete as flood waters recede, but prolonged waterlogging is expected to cause significant crop losses, particularly affecting the harvesting season. • Daily wage earners and small farmers face substantial income losses due to flooded fields and restricted market access. • Fishing communities are unable to work during the storm and have been prohibited from venturing to sea; five fishermen have already died in storm-related incidents. • Market traders and small business operators have experienced loss of goods and disrupted sales due to road closures. Also, lack of essential items in the middle-level market.
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Health, First Aid, Ambulance and MHPSS

Key updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health services in several affected districts are operating under severe pressure due to restricted access to remote health facilities caused by road closures and bridge failures, increased demand for emergency and trauma care services, shortage of essential medicines and medical supplies in isolated areas, and injuries from landslides, floods, and storm-related incidents requiring urgent intervention
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WASH

Key updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy flooding and inundated wells across affected districts have created a critical contamination risk for drinking water sources. • Flooded latrines and septic systems increase the probability of waterborne disease transmission. • Disease surveillance and outbreak prevention is vital to protect from the aftereffects of the disaster
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Coordination (incl. Movement, bilateral project with IFRC Network members and external partners)

Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICRC maintains an active presence in the country; currently, no other Movement partners are operational on the ground. • A tripartite meeting involving ICRC, SLRCS, and IFRC was held to review the situation and discuss the way forward. • ICRC has provided financial support amounting to CHF 12,588 (converted into local currency) to SLRCS to assist with immediate needs. • Joint assessment
UN/Cluster engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WASH Cluster Coordination: A WASH cluster meeting was held on 29 November 2025, where members identified priority needs and shared updated information.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Cluster Update: A health cluster meeting is scheduled for 01 December 2025 to review health-related priorities and coordination. • Joint Rapid Needs Assessment (JRNA): DMC convened humanitarian partners today to plan the JRNA. The report is expected within 72 hours. • National Coordination: DMC continues to lead national coordination efforts and issue regular weather and landslide alerts. • UN Cluster Activation: The UN is initiating cluster meetings for Health and WASH sectors under the coordination of the UN Resident Coordinator.
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Corporate services key highlights

Communications (incl. external communications, Humanitarian Diplomacy and public relations)

Key updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>More information will be provided in the next reports</i>
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Logistics

Warehouses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLRCS warehouse located in Naikahnda Road, Katunayake • Relief items stocks have been released for distributions to the districts Badulla, Matale, Kandy, Puttalam, Kurunagala, Anuradhapura, Batticaloa and Trincomalee. The following items were distributed; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Towel (800), ○ Kaftan (800) ○ Bed sheets (800) ○ Sarongs (800) ○ Jerry Cans (800) ○ Kitchen sets (150) ○ Raincoats (240) ○ Mosquito Nets (150) ○ Gum Boots (90) ○ Rubber Gloves (90) ○ baby kits (100)
Stock confirmed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stocks available: Bed sheet (4315), Towel (3515), Sarang (2800), Kaftan (2640), Jerry Cans (2475), Kitchen set (602), Mosquito Nets (730), Baby kits (320) and Adult kits (117) – out of this stock, 1st round of distribution items mentioned above has already been dispatched to the fields.

Surge

Two personnel from CCD Delhi arrived in the country including Head of Delegation (HoD) on 30 November, Sunday. Subsequent deployments will include specialized support in Procurement and Finance to strengthen supply chain management and financial accountability during the response.

Key updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surge Alert request sent to Surge Desk • Requested profiles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Communications – 1 month, in country deployment ○ Assessment – 1 month, in country deployment ○ Information Management – 1 month, initially remote deployment ○ PMER – 3 months, in country deployment
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Finances

Key updates

- *More information will be provided in the next reports*

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluations and/or Reporting

Key updates

SLRCS branches are deploying the NDRT and BDRT members on the ground, assessing and collecting the information and data, and updating through the data bank website on the SLRCS

Information Management

Key updates

- Disaster Categorisation is currently being updated daily by IFRC Regional Office

Safety & Security

Key updates

- Safety and security conditions remain fragile, with authorities warning people to avoid damaged roads, bridges and active landslide zones as new slope failures and sudden flood surges are still possible, especially along the Kelani, Kalu, Maha and Attanagalu river basins. Power cuts, telecommunications outages and blocked access routes are hampering timely rescues and complicating law-and-order management in some overcrowded evacuation centres, although no large-scale security incidents have been reported and the tri-forces and Police remain widely deployed to protect civilians, secure infrastructure and support relief operation

Contact Information

For further information, specifically related to this operation, please contact:

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