

**Embassy of Sri Lanka
Stockholm**

URGENT APPEAL

Ref: Sto/Pol/Gen/59

26th December 2004

Dear Friends of Sri Lanka,

Request for Emergency Assistance for Sri Lanka

It is with much sadness that I am contacting you today. I never thought that the information I would be communicating to you would be on something like this.....

As you are aware, widespread devastation and loss of life have been caused mainly in the Eastern and Southern parts of Sri Lanka as a result of a tidal wave (tsunami) which occurred last morning (26th December 2004 morning) in the Indian Ocean. Sri Lanka has never experienced a disaster of this magnitude in its entire history.

Initial reports indicate that thousands have been killed and many more remain missing. The number of affected people is approximately one million.

The government of Sri Lanka has declared this a national disaster and all the Government and other agencies have been placed on an emergency footing to operationalize rescue, relief, medical and other assistance in the affected areas.

As for the tourists, all necessary steps are being taken to provide alternative accommodation. Information regarding tourists in the island's coastal belt is being provided round the clock on the Hotline 0094-112-437061 set up by the Sri Lanka Tourist Board, which is also keeping all foreign missions based in Colombo fully informed to facilitate speedy responses to inquires on tourists. Sri Lanka is also experiencing an influx of tourists from neighbouring countries affected by the tidal waves for emergency accommodation.

The Sri Lankan Government is appealing the International community and Sri Lankan expatriates for the following assistance in kind:

Immediate:

1. Tents, blankets, linen etc.,
2. Food (pre cooked or ready to eat meal packs)
3. Water purification tablets (approximately 2 million)
4. Wheat flour, pulses, rice
5. Drugs, paracetamol, anti-biotic, dressing, suture material, disposable syringes.

6. Intravenous infusions (saline and dextrose)
7. Portable generators

Medium term:

1. Housing and rehabilitation
2. Reconstruction of infrastructure

Further details of the medium term requirements shall follow.

For those who wish to make financial contributions, instructions are as follows:

Postgirot : 4111-1

Bank account :

Bank - Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken (SEB), Nybrogatan Branch,
Nybrogatan 39, 106 40 Stockholm

Account No. - 5213 - 100 - 2386

IBAN SE 51 500000000 521 31002386

BIC: ESS ESESS

**When cash donations are made, please indicate the purpose as
"Emergency Assistance for Sri Lanka - December 2004".**

The Embassy has also set up a 24-hour hotline for information:

Telephone - 08-663 65 23/25

Fax -08-660 00 89

E-mail -slembassy@chello.se

If you wish to directly send any consignments of emergency relief, please contact Secretary, Ministry of Social Welfare and & Women's Empowerment, 5th Floor, Sethsiripaya, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka (Tel: 94-112-887349 or 50 or 51 & Fax: 94-112-877127) and keep this Embassy informed.

Your contributions are most welcome and would be much appreciated. If you are making direct contributions to Sri Lanka, through your contacts in Sri Lanka, grateful if you could also keep this Embassy informed.

Please forward this information to your contacts as well, for possible assistance.

Thank you for your co-operation during this hour of need to support Sri Lanka and its people.

Yours sincerely,

Hasanthi Dissanayake
Chargé d'Affaires

29th December 2004

Dear All,

Emergency Relief to Sri Lanka

Further to our letters concerning the above.

Any one who wishes to make financial contributions towards disaster relief in Sri Lanka can now also make direct contributions to the following two special accounts opened by the Presidential Secretariat. The details are as follows:

1) Central Bank of Sri Lanka

Account No. 46060

2) People's Bank, Head Quarters Branch

Account No.: 204 1001 9013 6245

Name of Account: President's Fund for Disaster Relief

Further, please note that the Embassy is co-ordinating with several airlines to obtain delivery of emergency supplies to Sri Lanka and please continue to collect urgently required supplies.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd) Hasanthi Dissanayake

Chargé d' Affaires