



Australian Government

# AUSTRALIA'S SUPPORT FOR SRI LANKA'S COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

## AUD 4.5 MILLION

AUSTRALIA HAS COMMITTED AUD 4.5 MILLION TO SUPPORT SRI LANKA'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19.

Support is focused on three priority areas: health security, stability and economic recovery.

Our support targets women and girls, people with disabilities and those outside of social safety net systems.



## SUMMARY OF SUPPORT

### HEALTH SECURITY

Support to the Ministry of Health to implement Sri Lanka's COVID-19 Health Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan, focused on:

- Strengthening **national laboratories** including provision of equipment training for health officials and support for genomic sequencing;
- Preparing health care facilities and staff on **case management** protocols; and
- Enhancing rapid detection and surveillance of cases including **contact tracing**, case identification and isolation.



Provision of **PPE for frontline workers** to minimise further transmission of COVID-19, supported by Australia's Department of Defence (*manufactured in Sri Lanka by Australian firm Ansell*).

Support for improved health measures at points of entry including health safety and screening equipment, supported by Australia's Department of Home Affairs.



Supported **sexual and reproductive health** for women and girls in lockdown and quarantine areas, including counselling services and the distribution of sanitary and hygiene options.

Support to the Civil Society Collective to address stigma issues and engage, sensitise and capacitate communities on COVID-19 preventive measures including through mass and social media campaigns and a mobile unit.

Support for a national assessment on the impact of COVID-19 on women and girls.

Provided four PCR machines to Sri Lanka Navy to test for COVID-19 at sea, supported by Australia's Department of Defence and Department of Home Affairs.

Supported a **risk communications** campaign focusing on key COVID-19 prevention messages including handwashing and cough etiquette.

### STABILITY



Support for immediate **food security** for households:

- part of the National School Meals Program;
- affected by the South West Monsoon;
- in Northern Province that are headed by a female, have a woman with a disability, are members of families of the missing or disappeared and/or are part of the LGBTQI community;
- in Eastern and Northern province who rely on SME income, through our iLive program;
- In Batticaloa, supported by Australia's Department of Home Affairs.



Support for **home-based education** due to sustained school closures, including:

- Provision of printed education materials for 430,000 children in Grade 1 and 2; and
- English digital learning materials and community-based remote learning support for 320 primary students in Mannar.



Continued support for **demining activities**, providing economic livelihood opportunities and contributing to post-conflict stability.

### ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Australian technical expertise through the **Sri Lanka Tourism Alliance** is assisting tourism businesses to manage the immediate crisis and effectively plan for business recovery.

Support for the **upskilling and multiskilling of tourism sector workers** to better equip them for employment opportunities post COVID-19.



Partnering with the **private sector** to rebuild in an inclusive and resilient manner, supporting organisations to be **gender-inclusive** in their post-COVID recovery.

**Support for SMEs** by facilitating an SME credit line (in partnership with the World Bank), and restructure the National Insurance Trust Fund to improve access of SMEs and vulnerable enterprises to good quality insurance and reinsurance services delivery.

TO FIND OUT MORE, VISIT [WWW.SRILANKAEMBASSY.GOV.AU](http://WWW.SRILANKAEMBASSY.GOV.AU)



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