

CandleAid Lanka

(Government Approved Charity – Reg.No.GA 201)

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Landslides and flooding caused by cyclone in Sri Lanka

Friday, 28 November 2025 was not simply a Black Friday, but the darkest we have seen in a long time. Most parts of the island were affected by Cyclone Ditwah. Strong winds of around 70 knots bashed the whole island. The rainfall reached almost 400 cm in some areas. Rivers overflowed, landslides rumbled causing chaos of unimaginable proportions.

Today is 30 November. The skies are blue, the rain is gone, and the winds have died down – yet the flooding rivers are still very much active, roads and railway lines are severely damaged, communication lines have fallen down rendering affected people severely handicapped. Lives are lost, some are missing, and livelihoods are buried in mud and water. People have no houses to return to and even if they had there are no belongings as they are washed out in the flooding waters or crushed under a mound of earth.

Sri Lankans here and abroad, and foreigners and various entities are doing what they can. Yet, the tide of suffering and loss is almost impossible to quell.

CandleAid's network of supporters from all over the world are reaching out. We are using our volunteer coordinators spread across the island to reach victims in shelter centres, devastated communities and individual families.

Anyone wishing to support can do so through our online facility at www.candleaid.org or by contacting us direct through contact details given below. Collectively we can kindle even a spark of hope in the hearts of those ravaged by this tragedy.

Already we are helping a community in Kalawewa through our coordinator, an incumbent priest in the Buddhist temple and another community in Chilaw identified through the Holy Emmanuel Church, Moratuwa.



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"It is better by far to light a solitary candle than to curse the darkness"