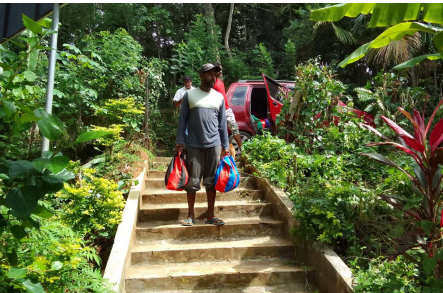


# Assistance to Needy Families and Schoolchildren in Matale and Ragala



Today, October 1, 2023, is World Children’s Day. Buddhist Relief Mission is happy to announce that last month, we were able to donate food parcels and school supplies to a remote school of 32 children in Matale (*left*) and to 100 families in a village in Ragala (*right*). During the economic crisis, assistance is urgently needed, not only to relieve hunger, but also to allow students to continue their education. With rising inflation and government cutbacks, many people in Sri Lanka are suffering from food insecurity. BRM will continue to provide to help as much as we can. Your contributions are welcome and will ensure that our programs can continue.

Sadhu! Sadhu!! Sadhu!!!

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/world/sri-lankas-economic-crisis-revealed-over-half-the-population-multidimensionally-vulnerable-says-undp-survey/article67263119.ece>

**Sri Lanka’s economic crisis revealed: Over half the population ‘multidimensionally vulnerable,’ says UNDP survey**

by Meera Srinivasan, September 02, 2023

COLOMBO The crushing economic crisis in Sri Lanka last year has left more than half of the island’s population “multidimensionally vulnerable”, according to a national citizens’ survey led by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The study spanning the years 2022 and 2023 and covering 25,000 households across the country, found 55.7 % of the population to be vulnerable across three dimensions — education, health and disaster, living standards — and 12 indicators, including school attendance, physical condition [of health], unemployment and indebtedness. In effect, the survey showed that 12.34 million people out of Sri Lanka’s 22.16 million-strong population have been badly affected by the crisis and remain vulnerable amid claims of a “recovering” economy. The findings are in line with earlier research by UN agencies on food insecurity levels and reaffirm anecdotal accounts of poor families cutting down their food intake and pulling their children out of school to cope with the high living costs.



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In the U.K., contact Ewen Arnold at <[ewenarnold@gmail.com](mailto:ewenarnold@gmail.com)> for bank information



Click this photo for a short video of the children expressing their gratitude to the donors.



**Buddhist Relief Mission**

<[www.brelief.org](http://www.brelief.org)>

