

Delivering Food Parcels to Families on a Tea Estate in Kandapola

On November 18, Buddhist Relief Mission delivered parcels of food to 125 families in Kandapola, a village on a tea estate near Nuwara Eliya. The delegation, consisting of Lily, her family, and several members of the Ayappa Society, left Kandy at five o'clock in the morning. The mountain road is quite treacherous, but the group arrived in Kandapola at about nine-thirty. After a brief ceremony at the Hindu temple, the parcels were distributed in the auditorium. As has been the pattern for the last few weeks, it began raining heavily in the late afternoon. On the return trip, in the pouring rain and the darkness, the van had to proceed very slowly. At one point, the road was blocked by large trees which had fallen, both in front of and behind the van. After about two hours, the police arrived and helped clear the way. The group reached Kandy about midnight.

This distribution was part of BRM's ongoing program of providing needy families and institutions with food, medicine, and other essentials during the economic crisis in Sri Lanka. The program depends on continued donations.

Sadhu! Sadhu!! Sadhu!!! for your generosity! Thank you!

Each family received 5 kilos of rice, a bottle of coconut oil, and a cloth bag containing

potatoes	chilli pieces
onions	curry powder
dhal	salt
garlic	dry soy meat
sugar	dried fish
flour	chocolate cookies
tea	laundry soap
chilli powder	hand soap

This is about one week's worth of staples.

... the living standards of 80 percent of the households in Sri Lanka have been adversely affected, while the bottom 40 percent may have been plunged into dire poverty due to inflation which acts as an insidious tax on people's incomes. ...

... according to the Department of Census and Statistics an estate sector family earns approximately Rs.46,865 [US\$146]- a month (around a fourth of the cash needed to feed a family of four). ...

Our people have been pauperised, they can no longer afford to provide their children sufficient food. Our children are malnourished, anemic and their development retarded.

-From an Editorial in *The Daily Mirror*, November 6, 2023



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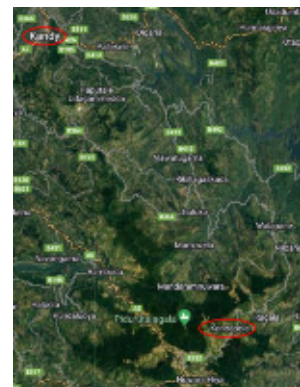
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in the U.K., contact <ewenarnold@gmail.com> for bank details

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