

## Joint UN North East Situation Monitoring Report

May 2008

Attached below is the joint UN agency North East situation monitoring report. This report is intended to give an overview of the current situation in the North East by tracking the trends of various conflict-sensitive indicators. The table on the next page lists data for the three most recent months.

*Note that full commitment, as indicated by timely, regular reporting from all responsible agencies, is required in order to make this report useful as a decision-making tool.*

The following interpretations can be made for the month of May based on the data available:

### **North East:**

- 1 case of underage recruitment and 1 release are reported for May 2008. Please note that figures for April and March 2008 have been modified as new data was received.
- The number of security incidents involving humanitarian aid workers has decreased to 1.
- The number of UN projects disrupted due to security reasons remains at 72.
- 7 hartals have been reported for May 2008.
- 19 day of closure of primary and secondary schools is reported throughout the North and East, with 273 school concerned. 431,482 children did not attend school for at least one day during May. Please see comments on the last page.
- The average market price of kerosene has increased throughout the North and East except in Trincomalee where it has decreased.
- Average daily wages for skilled and unskilled labour remains stable throughout the North and East, except in Batticaloa where they have increased.

### **Jaffna:**

- The average market price of rice, lentils and kerosene has increased.
- The average market price of bread remains stable at 48 Rs./loaf.
- The average market price of vegetable oil has decreased from 258 to 235 Rs./litre.

### **Kilinochchi:**

- The average market price of rice and kerosene has increased.
- The average market price of vegetable oil and lentils has decreased.
- The average market price of bread remains stable at 38 Rs./loaf.

### **Mannar:**

- The average market price of rice has decreased from 72 to 67 Rs./kg.
- The average market price of all other monitored commodities has increased.

### **Mullaitivu:**

- The average market price of rice and kerosene has increased.
- The average market price of bread and lentils remains stable.
- The average market price of vegetable oil has decreased from 310 to 300 Rs./litre.

### **Vavuniya:**

- The average market price of kerosene and lentils has increased.
- The average market price of rice and vegetable oil has decreased.
- The average market price of bread remains stable at 40 Rs./loaf.

### **Trincomalee:**

- The average market price of bread and lentils has increased.
- The average market price of vegetable oil and kerosene has decreased.
- The average market price of rice remains stable at 67 Rs./kg.

### **Batticaloa:**

- The average market price of kerosene and lentils has increased.
- The average market price of all other monitored commodities has decreased.
- Average daily wages for skilled labour has increased from Rs. 1,200 to 1,300 while average daily wages for unskilled labour has increased from Rs. 600 to 700.

### **Ampara:**

- The average market price of rice and kerosene has increased.
- The average market price of all other monitored commodities remains stable.

***Please note that this May report does not cover the recent developments in the country.***

Indicator	Unit	Month	Ampara	Batticaloa	Jaffna	Kilinochchi	Mannar	Mullaitivu	Trincomalee	Vavuniya	Total	Average	Resp.	Trends / Comments		
1.1	Primary and secondary school closure days, due to conflict/security/hartal	Number	May-08	0	6	10	1	N/A	1	1	19	3.17	UNICEF	Please see comments on last page		
			Apr-08	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1			0.13	
			Mar-08	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1			0.13	
1.2	Primary and secondary schools closed, due to conflict/security/hartal	Number	May-08	0	43	1	101	N/A	106	22	N/A	273		UNICEF	Please see comments on last page	
			Apr-08	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12				
			Mar-08	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1				
1.3	Children not attending school for at least 1 day due to conflict/security/hartal	Number	May-08	0	19,218	941	370,308	N/A	34,025	6,990	N/A	431,482		UNICEF	Please see comments on last page	
			Apr-08	8,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8,000				
			Mar-08	0	0	0	0	0	114	0	0	114				
2.1	Prevalence of vector-borne or communicable disease outbreaks (MOH)	Number	May-08	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		WHO	Please see comments on last page	
			Apr-08	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
			Mar-08	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
3.1	Average market price of nadu red rice	Rs./kg	May-08	65	67	95	36	67	35	67	67		62	WFP		
			Apr-08	64	88	86	34	72	32	67	71		64			
			Mar-08	63	59	76	34	61	N/A	59	63	62				60
3.2	Average market price of bread	Rs./loaf	May-08	38	39	48	38	45	38	43	40		41	WFP		
			Apr-08	38	42	48	38	40	38	40	40		41			
			Mar-08	38	43	46	38	40	N/A	38	40		40			
3.3	Average market price of vegetable oil	Rs./litre	May-08	340	337	235	300	283	300	235	245		284	WFP		
			Apr-08	340	356	258	310	255	310	238	265		291			
			Mar-08	340	333	269	245	248	N/A	283	225		277			
3.4	Average market price of kerosene	Rs./litre	May-08	76	78	88	115	84	120	73	85		90	WFP		
			Apr-08	71	76	85	110	82	110	78	83		87			
			Mar-08	71	78	85	110	83	N/A	80	82		84			
3.5	Average market price of red lentils	Rs./kg	May-08	140	182	140	65	175	70	186	180		142	WFP		
			Apr-08	140	166	115	70	148	70	160	150		127			
			Mar-08	140	148	116	70	148	N/A	150	148		131			
3.6	Average daily wages, skilled labour	Rs.	May-08	950	1,300	650	725	850	-	1200	-		945.83	ILO	Data reflects range midpoint.	
			Apr-08	950	1,200	650	725	-	-	1200	-		945.00			
			Mar-08	950	1,200	625	550	-	-	1200	-		905.00			
3.7	Average daily wages, unskilled labour	Rs.	May-08	650	700	550	600	550	-	700	-		625.00	ILO	Data reflects range midpoint.	
			Apr-08	650	600	550	600	-	-	700	-		620.00			
			Mar-08	650	600	525	400	-	-	700	-		575.00			
3.8	Variation of average retail price of fresh fish with respect to standard price	%	May-08	58	31	-51	-11	3	N/A		32	36		14.00	FAO	Standard price refers to the average retail price of this good 12 months prior to the reporting month
			Apr-08	58	7	-61	15	18	N/A		28	28		13.29		
			Mar-08	110	21	-65	19	34	N/A		14	13		20.86		
3.9	Variation of average retail price of dry fish with respect to standard price	%	May-08	145	46	-6	40	43	N/A		44	13		46.43	FAO	Standard price refers to the average retail price of this good 12 months prior to the reporting month
			Apr-08	145	37	-6	14	25	N/A		40	14		38.43		
			Mar-08	145	33	-6	20	25	N/A		6	14		33.86		
3.10	Variation of average retail price of eggs with respect to standard price	%	May-08	25	22	-58	10	20	N/A		29	0		6.86	FAO	Standard price refers to the average retail price of this good 12 months prior to the reporting month
			Apr-08	25	22	-68	11	20	N/A		24	11		6.43		
			Mar-08	25	25	-70	-11	11	N/A		40	11		4.43		
3.11	Variation of average retail price of fresh vegetables with respect to standard price	%	May-08	155	251	-43	45	132	N/A		114	102		108.00	FAO	Standard price refers to the average retail price of this good 12 months prior to the reporting month
			Apr-08	144	227	-45	14	57	N/A		38	130		80.71		
			Mar-08	64	125	-62	-9	52	N/A		14	110		42.00		

Indicator	Unit	Month	Ampara	Batticaloa	Jaffna	Kilinochchi	Mannar	Mullaitivu	Trincomalee	Vavuniya	Total	Average	Resp.	Trends / Comments
4.1	Underage recruits reported	Number	May-08	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.13	UNICEF	Includes both LTTE and Karuna faction; Continually revised based on incoming reports.
			Apr-08	0	6	0	2	0	0	0	8	1.00		
			Mar-08	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	4	0.50		
4.2	Underage releases reported	Number	May-08	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.13	UNICEF	Includes both LTTE and Karuna faction; Continually revised based on incoming reports.
			Apr-08	1	33	0	0	0	0	1	35	4.38		
			Mar-08	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	4	0.50		
4.3	IDPs, by present location	Number of people	May-08	5,106	18,708	28,573	50,469	25,314	32,649	5,427	12,934	179,180	UNHCR	
			Apr-08	5,188	24,987	31,037	48,834	25,193	32,289	5,668	10,968	184,164		
			Mar-08	5,569	26,038	30,778	48,745	23,094	32,147	5,719	10,968	183,058		
5.1	Hartals	Number	May-08	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	7	UN DSS	
			Apr-08	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	5		
			Mar-08	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3		
5.2	Security incidents involving civilians - fatalities	Number	May-08	12	6	10	9	0	0	5	9	51	UN DSS	
			Apr-08	4	5	7	9	3	0	1	3	32		
			Mar-08	8	1	6	9	0	0	3	4	31		
5.3	Security incidents involving humanitarian workers - fatalities	Number	May-08	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	UN DSS	
			Apr-08	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
			Mar-08	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
5.4	Security incidents involving humanitarian workers - injuries	Number	May-08	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	UN DSS	
			Apr-08	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
			Mar-08	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
5.5	Security incidents involving humanitarian workers	Number	May-08	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	UN DSS	Please see comments on last page
			Apr-08	6	0	0	1	0	0	8	81	96		
			Mar-08	5	5	0	0	0	0	4	44	58		
5.6	Arrests under the Emergency Regulations/ Prevention of Terrorism Act	Number	May-08	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	UN OHCHR	
			Apr-08	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0		
			Mar-08	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0		
5.7	Disappearances reported to the Human Rights Commission	Number	May-08	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	UN OHCHR	
			Apr-08	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0		
			Mar-08	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0		
6.1	Humanitarian agencies present	Number	May-08	135	105	57	79	63	51	134	58	OCHA	Please see comments on last page	
			Apr-08	136	100	57	72	63	50	130	57			
			Mar-08	136	99	57	72	63	50	140	57			
6.2	UN projects disrupted due to security reasons	Number	May-08	-	3	0	37	6	25	0	1	72	OCHA	
			Apr-08	-	3	0	37	6	25	0	1	72		
			Mar-08	-	3	0	37	6	25	0	1	72		
6.3	Description of UN activities that have been suspended / delayed or put on hold due to security/conflict (optional)		provided in attached narrative										All	

Key	-	No Report		Current Month
	N/A	Not Available		Last Month
	0	Reported as Zero		Two Months Ago

## Narrative Report

The following information is voluntarily provided by agencies, to supplement the indicator table above.

Agency	Comments
UNICEF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Jaffna, 1 school was closed for 10 days as students boycotted classes against the school management.</li> <li>• In Ampara, no schools were affected by the hartals and processions that took place during the month.</li> <li>• In Vavuniya, some schools did not function in Government controlled areas on 23 and 26 May due to hartals. Detailed information is not available at this point in time.</li> <li>• In Batticaloa, 43 schools located in Kattankudy and Eravur divisions were closed due to hartals and general tension in the area. However, all schools were not closed at the same time. Schools in Eravur closed for 02 days while schools in Kattankudy closed for 04 days.</li> <li>• In Trincomalee, a hartal in Muttur on 26 May affected attendance in 22 schools. As schools were not officially closed, 777 children recorded their attendance and 6,990 were absent.</li> <li>• In Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu, all schools were closed for one day in protest of the killing of students due to violence.</li> </ul>
WHO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Batticaloa, Trincomalee and Anuradhapura an increased number of dengue and chikungunya cases have been reported. However, this number is not sufficient to be classified as an outbreak.</li> </ul>
UN DSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Batticaloa, a driver of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) went missing on 15 May 2008.</li> </ul>
OCHA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Ampara, the number of agencies decreased from 136 to 135 as USAID and FAO closed offices in the district while GTZ was added.</li> <li>• In Batticaloa, the number of agencies has increased from 100 to 105, as 7 NGOs (RDPO, GSEDO, PWA, SOND, Desmio, Arumbahal and SUIM) and 1 INGO (Helvetas) started operations in the district, while 3 INGOs (FORUT, KFW and Youth Club) left the district.</li> <li>• In Kilinochchi, the number of agencies has increased from 72 to 79 as the following agencies have started operations in the district: VEDRO, TR TEC, TEAC, MENDO, ANRF, ATC and CCDR</li> <li>• In Trincomalee, the number of agencies increased from 130 to 134 as 5 agencies (ASB, Solidar, VSO, WV and UNDSS) were added, while 1 agency (Associazione Italiana per la Solidarieta fra I Popoli) left the district.</li> <li>• In Vavuniya, the number of agencies has increased from 57 to 58 as UN FAO resumed operations in the district.</li> </ul>

**Disclaimer: The content of this report is accurate to the best knowledge of each responsible agency, at the time of the report. This report does not represent the view of the UN as a whole.**