

This report covers the period from 28 to 30 May 2009. The next report will be issued on or around 1 June.

I. Highlights

- The UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Sri Lanka briefed the media on Friday, 29 May, on the humanitarian situation, achievements and challenges.
- Access for humanitarian organizations to Menik Farm has improved.
- Two new sites in Vavuniya have been identified by the Competent Authority (CA) to ease congestion and move IDPs from school sites in the district. Land clearing has started.
- On 27 May, the UN Human Rights Council adopted a resolution on assistance to Sri Lanka in the promotion and protection of Human Rights.

II. Access & Security

- Discussions are ongoing between Government authorities and humanitarian organizations to define access procedures at Menik Farm in Vavuniya.

III. Situation Overview

IDPs		
During the period 27 October 2008 to 28 May 2009		276,785 persons crossed to the Government controlled areas from the conflict zone. This represents a decrease of 13,130 IDPs since the last report (Sitrep No.18) on 27 May 2009. The decrease is associated with double counting. Additional verification is required.
Vavuniya Camps:	256,287 ¹	274,468 people are accommodated in temporary camps.
Mannar Camps:	398 ²	
Jaffna Camps:	11,086 ³	
Trincomalee Camps:	6,697	
Hospitals:		2,317⁴ IDPs (injured and care givers) are in hospitals in various districts ⁵ as of 18 May 2009.
RELEASES		
Vavuniya Camps:	1,489	1,537 people have been released from temporary camps into host families and elders' homes as of 21 May 2009. The majority of these people are elderly, mentally challenged individuals and other vulnerable groups.
Mannar Camps:	5	
Jaffna Camps:	43	

¹ Source: Government, UNHCR (Vavuniya) and Divisional Secretary Vavuniya (DS VA)

² Source: Assistant Project Director Office (PDA Office Kachcheri)

³ Source: GA office (Jaffna)

⁴ Source: Programme Coordinator (GH Trincomalee)

⁵ This includes General Hospital Trincomalee, Base Hospital Kanthalai, Peripheral Unit Thampalakamam, Field Hospital Pulmoddai, Base Hospital Padaviya, National Hospital Colombo, Teaching Hospital Kandy, Cancer Hospital Maharagama, General Hospital Polonnaruwa, and General Hospital Mannar. Missing data for the hospitals of Vavuniya and some other locations is estimated at 1,500 people.

IV. Humanitarian Response

Food

- In Vavuniya, WFP reported that a total of 1,785MT of basic food items were provided to IDP sites in the district during the period 1 to 23 May.
- In Vavuniya, the Food cluster is in discussion with the Government Agent (GA) on possibilities to arrange for firewood distribution to IDPs in Menik Farm to facilitate individual cooking. Though organizations are ready to implement individual cooking arrangements in the IDP camps, a mechanism for firewood distribution is required.
- In Menik Farm, the disposal of waste water has presented problems for communal kitchens.
- In Trincomalee, a common plan for communal cooking at the Sahanagama (13th Mile Post) IDP site has been agreed by the Food cluster and Government authorities. The plan specifies actors responsible for various aspects of communal cooking and will help ensure food is provided in an efficient and transparent manner.

Shelter

- In Vavuniya, 2 additional sites have been identified to accommodate IDPs being moved from school sites in the district. Land clearing has commenced on both sites, which are 20 acres each and can accommodate up to 2,000 individuals each. There are plans to identify more sites of approximately 20 acres each to reduce overcrowding in Menik Farm.
- Until new sites are identified in Vavuniya, the Competent Authority (CA) has announced plans to move IDPs from school sites into Menik Farm zone 4. This process started on 27 May, with IDPs from the Pampaimadu School. IDPs accommodated at Poonthoddam IDP site are also to be moved. The impact of overcrowding in Menik Farm zone 4 is, however, of concern.
- In Vavuniya shelter organizations have agreed on modalities for the maintenance of shelters in each site. UNOPS has agreed to assess and report on the conditions of shelters every 3 months, while UNICEF will conduct WASH assessments every 3 months and inform the WASH cluster on needs for maintenance.

NFI

- In Vavuniya, ICRC has undertaken to distribute Baby Kits in all zones of Menik Farm. They currently have 10,000 kits in stock.
- In Vavuniya, distribution of one NFI kit per family every two months is ongoing. The cluster recently decided that two kits per family will be distributed for families with more than 5 members.
- In Vavuniya, NFI actors have agreed to distribute individual kitchen utensils with their NFI pack or kitchen sets to support individual cooking.
- In Jaffna, the ICRC has completed the distribution of 3,863 parcels of relief items donated by the Indian government to all IDP families displaced from the Vanni. The parcels include basic food commodities (rice, dhal, sugar, and tea), hygiene kits, individual kitchen utilities and clothes.
- In Jaffna, FORUT has distributed additional common kitchen utilities to Kodikamam Ramavil site A&B, Kaithady PRI Site A, Kaithady University Hostel and Kaithady Hindu Children's home.

Education

- In Jaffna, WFP provided 6.5 MT of mixed food commodities for Mirusuvil and Kaithady Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS) as part of their School Feeding Programme. FORUT completed kitchen facilities at both TLS to support this.
- In Jaffna, UNICEF started work on a TLS for the Kodikamam Ramavil IDP site for school aged children. WASH facilities and a kitchen to support the WFP School feeding programme, will also be provided by UNICEF. The TLS will have the capacity to educate 1,500 IDP children.
- In Jaffna, Save the Children in Sri Lanka (SCiSL) provided pre school indoor play materials and stationery to children at the Kodikamam Ramavil Site A&B. Pre-school activities commenced for 120 children in this site on 29 May. Six pre-school teachers selected from the IDP community will conduct classes on rotation. SCiSL will cover the salary of these teachers.

V. Communication / Advocacy

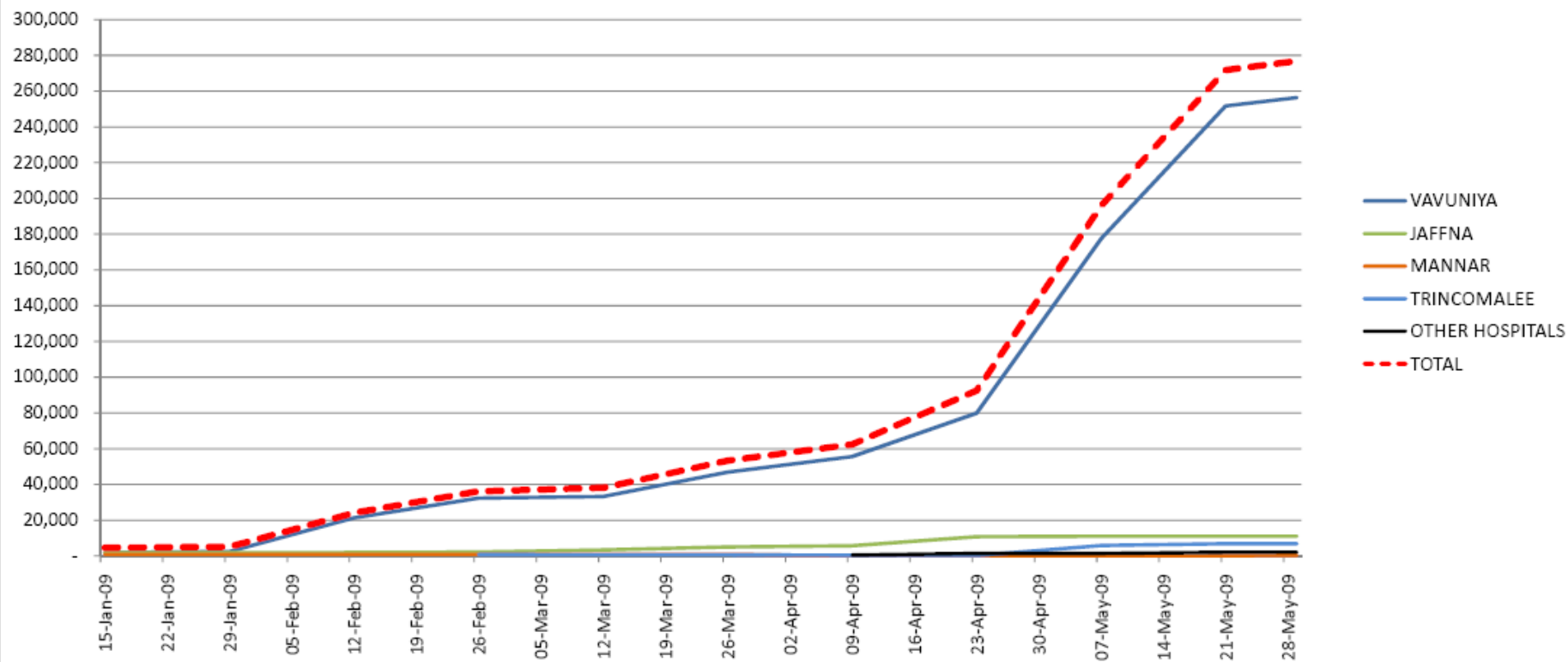
- On 27 May, the 11th Special Session of the UN Human Rights Council on Sri Lanka concluded after adopting a resolution on assistance to Sri Lanka in the promotion and protection of human rights. The resolution was adopted by a vote of 29 in favour, 12 against and six abstentions. The Council urged the Government to continue strengthening its activities to ensure that there was no discrimination against ethnic minorities in the enjoyment of the full range of human rights. The Council also commended the measures taken by the Government of Sri Lanka to address the urgent needs of the internally displaced persons.

VI. Funding / CHAP

- As of 29 May, the 2009 CHAP for Sri Lanka is 39 percent funded, with US\$ 60,776,039 received out of the \$155,112,669 required. In addition, \$26,868,819 has been pledged by various donors, which would bring the level of funding up to 56 percent once the contributions are received.

All humanitarian partners including donors and recipient agencies are encouraged to inform FTS of cash and in-kind contributions by sending an email to: fts@reliefweb.int

**IDP Arrivals/Registrations in Jaffna, Vavuniya, Mannar, Trincomalee Districts and other locations
as of 29 May 2009**



OTHER HOSPITALS - National Hospital Colombo, Teaching Hospital Kandy, Cancer Hospital Maharagama, General Hospital Polonnaruwa, Base Hospital Padaviya, General Hospital Mannar
 Missing data for hospitals in Vavuniya and other locations estimated at 1,500

The mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors.

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