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Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA

**Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC**  
Humanitarian Aid and SHA

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Switzerland donates urgently required essential drugs for IDP treating health facilities in Sri Lanka**

**Reiterating its commitment to the welfare of the civilians who have been victims of the conflict and are now kept in Government controlled camps in the North, Switzerland has donated a 3<sup>rd</sup> stock of urgently required medical supplies to be distributed to health facilities treating Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) through the Ministry of Health (MoH).**

The consignment of drugs, mainly anti-biotics worth Rs. 7.1 million, was handed over to the Medical Supplies Department (MSD) of the MoH on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August 2009. Since March 2009, Switzerland has therewith donated essential drugs for the medical treatment of conflict-displaced civilians to a total value of Rs. 18 Million.

Switzerland supports the Sri Lankan Government in its endeavour to proceed to a speedy return process but deplores the continued lack of freedom of movement for the Sri Lankan Civilians in the camps, namely in Menik Farm.

Switzerland also appeals for cooperation between Sri Lanka and the international community. It is essential that humanitarian actors should be able to provide support to vulnerable populations in the north of Sri Lanka rapidly and without hindrance.

Switzerland reiterates its willingness to provide support in the areas of humanitarian aid, humanitarian protection and the elaboration of institutional solutions for the protection of all communities.

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