

Joint UN North East Situation Monitoring Report

March 2007

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 March based on the data available:

North East:

- The total number of newly Internal Displaced Persons has increased and reached an estimated total of 302,879 people for the month of March 2007
- Still of high concern, an increase of security incidents is reported with 176 victims (138 in February) with Vavuniya, Ampara and Vavuniya being the worst affected
- The number of humanitarian agencies remains stable with 608 agencies recorded by OCHA in the North and East
- The number of disrupted projects due to security reasons remains at 75
- The disruption of school functioning and subsequent attendance is a concern with special emphasis this month in Mannar (25 closure days) and Batticaloa (15 closure days). In the North East 303 schools were closed in March. A total of 101,253 children did not attend school for at least 1 day between Batticaloa, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, Mannar and Ampara districts.
- The number of Hartals has increased to 8 for the month of March (compared to 2 in February)
- The variation of the average retail prices of essential food commodities continues to fluctuate unequally between districts. Jaffna has seen reduction in the variation of the average price of fresh and dry fish.

Jaffna:

- While the prices of Nadu red rice and vegetable oil have decreased, the prices remain high. The variation of retail price for fresh and dry fish shows a decrease

Kilinochchi:

- The variation of the average retail prices of essential food commodities continues to fluctuate with a decrease for fresh fish, fresh vegetables and eggs while an increase is observed for the dry fish. The average market prices remain stable.

Mannar:

- Attendance of children to school has been disrupted in Mannar with more than 5,000 children not attending school, 10 schools closed totaling 25 days of closure.

Vavuniya:

- Still of high concern, the number of security incidents (killings) has increased from 26 to 47 in the district and is the highest for the North and East

Trincomalee:

- The number of security incidents (killings) has significantly decreased from 36 to 18 in the district but remains a concern
- The average market price of vegetable oil has increase from 112 to 120 Rs/litre

Batticaloa:

- The average market price of vegetable oil has increase from 208 to 235 Rs/litre
- The number of newly recorded IDPs remains the highest since December 2006 coming from 76,498 persons up to 155,872. Batticaloa District has 50% of the total number of new IDPs (new IDPs since April 2006).
- The presence of humanitarian agencies has slightly increased with 90 agencies recorded (85 in February)

Ampara:

- The number of IDPs registered in the District has increased from 2,471 to 8,752 people
- The number of security incidents (killings) has significantly increased from 7 to 40 and is the highest with Vavuniya District.

Please send comments on this report to OCHA (hubin@un.org, randeni@un.org)
Please note that this March report does not cover the recent developments in the East of the country.

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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	Mar-07	4	15	0	1	25	1	0	0	46	5.75	UNICEF		
			Feb-07	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3			0.38
			Jan-07	4	3	13	0	0	0	12	0	32	4.00			
1.2	Primary and secondary schools closed, due to conflict/security/hartal	Number	Mar-07	N/A	101	0	101	10	91	0	0	303		UNICEF	In Mannar District, all concerned schools are located in Madhu education zone.	
			Feb-07	2	36	1	0	0	0	0	0	39				
			Jan-07	212	324	67	0	0	0	5	0	608				
1.3	Children not attending school for at least 1 day due to conflict/security/hartal	Number	Mar-07	758	28,000	0	36,861	5,197	30,437	0	0	101,253		UNICEF	In Mannar, all displaced students were in Madhu zone. Children were sent to Madhu Church	
			Feb-07	380	12,039	2,103	0	0	0	0	0	14,522				
			Jan-07	100,125	123,443	24,049	0	0	0	0	0	247,617				
2.1	Prevalence of vector-borne or communicable disease outbreaks (MOH)	Number	Mar-07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		WHO		
			Feb-07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
			Jan-07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
3.1	Average market price of nadu red rice	Rs./kg	Mar-07	35	40	74	28	40	27	36	41		40.13	WFP		
			Feb-07	34	43	93	29	43	30	37	43	43	43.76			
			Jan-07	34	39	181	30	43	31	33	43	43	54.01			
3.2	Average market price of bread	Rs./loaf	Mar-07	20	24	30	25	26	25	24	26		25.00	WFP		
			Feb-07	20	25	30	25	26	25	24	26	26	25.05			
			Jan-07	20	25	30	25	26	25	24	24	24	24.77			
3.3	Average market price of vegetable oil	Rs./litre	Mar-07	180	235	230	150	125	146	120	126		164.00	WFP		
			Feb-07	180	208	298	150	127	148	112	125	125	168.44			
			Jan-07	180	195	513	155	118	155	130	118	118	195.40			
3.4	Average market price of kerosene	Rs./litre	Mar-07	48	55	88	100	54	100	49	55		68.63	WFP		
			Feb-07	48	49	85	100	55	100	50	55	55	67.70			
			Jan-07	48	49	100	100	54	100	49	54	54	69.17			
3.5	Average market price of red lentils	Rs./kg	Mar-07	83	77	72	70	79	65	68	80		74.25	WFP		
			Feb-07	81	75	72	70	79	63	74	78	78	73.85			
			Jan-07	81	64	84	68	78	83	73	75	75	75.64			
3.6	Average daily wages, skilled labour	Rs.	Mar-07	900	1050	775	700	-	700	1000	-		854.17	ILO	Data reflects range midpoint.	
			Feb-07	900	1050	775	700	-	700	1000	-	-	854.17			
			Jan-07	N/A	950	750	700	-	700	1000	-	-	820.00			
3.7	Average daily wages, unskilled labour	Rs.	Mar-07	600	600	575	550	-	550	550	-		570.83	ILO	Data reflects range midpoint.	
			Feb-07	600	600	600	475	-	450	500	-	-	537.50			
			Jan-07	N/A	450	550	450	-	450	475	-	-	475.00			
3.8	Variation of average retail price of fresh fish with respect to standard price	%	Mar-07	40	11	100	29	5	N/A	6	27		31.14	FAO	Standard price refers to the average retail price of this good 12 months prior to the reporting month	
			Feb-07	40	28	350	76	-1	N/A	7	35	35	76.43			
			Jan-07	N/A	21	350	69	38	N/A	-21	38	38	82.50			
3.9	Variation of average retail price of dry fish with respect to standard price	%	Mar-07	40	26	-23	33	0	N/A	-5	14		12.14	FAO	Standard price refers to the average retail price of this good 12 months prior to the reporting month	
			Feb-07	43	34	208	16	15	N/A	-12	14	14	45.43			
			Jan-07	56	18	208	-16	15	N/A	-20	14	14	39.29			
3.10	Variation of average retail price of eggs with respect to standard price	%	Mar-07	29	0	233	11	-10	N/A	0	50		44.71	FAO	Standard price refers to the average retail price of this good 12 months prior to the reporting month	
			Feb-07	N/A	29	250	25	43	N/A	13	50	50	68.33			
			Jan-07	67	43	317	38	67	N/A	36	50	50	88.29			

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3.11	Variation of average retail price of fresh vegetables with respect to standard price	%	Mar-07	39	32	40	-17	4	N/A	6	-17	12.43	FAO	Standard price refers to the average retail price of this good 12 months prior to the reporting month		
			Feb-07	39	29	64	24	10	N/A	1	4	24.43				
			Jan-07	20	49	160	41	44	N/A	-15	4	43.29				
4.1	Underage recruits reported	Number	Mar-07	0	12	0	3	0	2	0	2	19	2.38	UNICEF	Includes both LTTE and Karuna faction; Continually revised based on incoming reports.	
			Feb-07	5	20	0	4	0	3	2	0	34	4.25			
			Jan-07	4	44	0	10	0	5	3	2	68	8.50			
4.2	Underage releases reported	Number	Mar-07	0	17	0	2	0	3	0	0	22	2.75	UNICEF	Includes both LTTE and Karuna faction; Continually revised based on incoming reports.	
			Feb-07	0	27	1	4	0	3	1	0	36	4.50			
			Jan-07	2	6	0	10	0	15	0	0	33	4.13			
4.3	IDPs, by present location	Number of people	Mar-07	8,752	155,872	40,662	45,697	14,896	26,234	2,840	7,926	302,879		UNHCR		
			Feb-07	2,471	76,498	43,147	45,665	9,545	24,805	2,840	5,586	210,557				
			Jan-07	2,384	72,986	43,147	38,780	9,957	24,805	5,535	5,586	203,180				
5.1	Hartals	Number	Mar-07	1	0	0	5	0	0	1	1	8		UN DSS		
			Feb-07	N/A	1	N/A	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2			
			Jan-07	7	2	3	6	-	N/A	0	-	-	18			
5.2	Security incidents - killings	Number	Mar-07	40	13	35	16	7	N/A	18	47	176		UN DSS		
			Feb-07	7	19	22	22	6	N/A	36	26	138				
			Jan-07	8	71	34	27	23	N/A	19	68	250				
5.3	Arrests under the Emergency Regulations/ Prevention of Terrorism Act	Number	Mar-07	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	8	10		UN HRA		
			Feb-07	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1			
			Jan-07	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	12	19			
5.4	Disappearances reported to the Human Rights Commission	Number	Mar-07	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		UN HRA		
			Feb-07	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0			
			Jan-07	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	6	28			
5.5	Security incidents involving humanitarian workers	Number	Mar-07	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		UN HRA		
			Feb-07	-	31	38	-	-	-	-	21	47	137			
			Jan-07	1	40	47	-	-	-	-	10	49	147			
6.1	Humanitarian agencies present	Number	Mar-07	144	90	36	60	30	51	144	53	608		OCHA	AMDA is no longer active in Vavuniya	
			Feb-07	144	85	36	60	30	51	144	54	604				
			Jan-07	143	85	35	60	30	51	144	49	597				
6.2	UN projects disrupted due to security reasons	Number	Mar-07	-	6	-	38	6	25	0	-	75		OCHA		
			Feb-07	-	6	-	38	6	25	0	-	-	75			
			Jan-07	N/A	6	-	38	6	28	0	-	-	78			
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>• UNICEF reports under age recruitment in Polonaruwa: January 2007: 4 February 2007: 1 March 2007: 0

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.