

Joint UN North East Situation Monitoring Report
May 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 May based on the data available:

North East:

- Still of high concern, an increase of security incidents (killings) is reported with 141 victims (187 in April and 138 in February)
- The number of security incidents involving humanitarian workers has increased from 1 to 9
- 15 cases of under age recruitment and 5 releases are reported for May 2007
- 67 days of closure in primary and secondary schools are recorded for the month of May 2007 throughout the North and East of the country with 232 schools concerned. 106,556 children did not attend school for at least one day
- The number of disrupted projects due to security reasons is at 73
- The average market prices are stabilized but remain unequal between districts
- The variation of the average retail prices of essential food commodities continues to fluctuate unequally between districts. To the exception of Ampara and Trincomalee, all other Districts have seen an increase in the variation of the average price of fresh fish. Kilinochchi and Ampara see an increase in the variation of the average price of dry fish. The variation of the average price of fresh vegetables has increased in Jaffna.
- The average daily wages for skilled and unskilled labour continue to be different from one District to the other

Jaffna:

- 10 closure days in 02 primary and secondary schools concerning 3,680 children
- The average market price of vegetable oil has increased from 148 to 189 Rs/L

Kilinochchi:

- 52 security incidents (killings) were reported while there was none in April

Mannar:

- 31 local NGOs joint the report by registering information to the OCHA office covering the District
- No security incidents (killings) reported
- 21 closure days in 14 primary and secondary schools concerning 2,530 children

Vavuniya:

- The number of security incidents (killings) has significantly decreased from 77 to 11
- The variation of the average retail price of eggs has increased to 67 (50 in April)

Trincomalee:

- The number of security incidents (killings) has increased from 9 to 15

Batticaloa:

- The average market price for vegetable oil has decreased from 237 to 217 Rs/litre

Ampara:

- The number of security incidents (killings) has decreased from 28 to 10
- Ampara has recorded 5 security incidents involving humanitarian workers

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

Joint UN North East Situation Monitoring Report – May 2007

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	May07	3	12	10	N/A	21	N/A	0	21	67	11.17	UNICEF	
			Apr-07	0	N/A	0	0	10	0	N/A	1	11	1.83		
			Mar-07	4	15	0	1	25	1	0	0	46	5.75		
1.2	Primary and secondary schools closed, due to conflict/security/hartal	Number	May07	212	3	2	N/A	14	N/A	0	1	232		UNICEF	
			Apr-07	0	N/A	0	0	17	0	N/A	17	34			
			Mar-07	N/A	101	0	101	10	91	0	0	303			
1.3	Children not attending school for at least 1 day due to conflict/security/hartal	Number	May07	100,125	143	3,680	N/A	2,530	N/A	0	78	106,556		UNICEF	
			Apr-07	0	N/A	0	0	1,888	0	N/A	78	1,966			
			Mar-07	758	28,000	0	36,861	5,197	30,437	0	0	101,253			
2.1	Prevalence of vector-borne or communicable disease outbreaks (MOH)	Number	May07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		WHO	Sporadic cases reported of HepatitisA and Chickenpox in Baticaloa
			Apr-07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
			Mar-07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
3.1	Average market price of nadu red rice	Rs./kg	May07	35	41	76	26	42	22	43	43		40.88	WFP	
			Apr-07	35	41	65	28	41	26	40	40		39.45		
			Mar-07	35	40	74	28	40	27	36	41		40.13		
3.2	Average market price of bread	Rs./loaf	May07	27	29	32	25	28	25	26	28		27.44	WFP	
			Apr-07	23	26	32	25	26	25	24	26		25.83		
			Mar-07	20	24	30	25	26	25	24	26		25.00		
3.3	Average market price of vegetable oil	Rs./litre	May07	150	217	189	145	130	140	134	126		153.75	WFP	
			Apr-07	140	237	148	150	130	145	139	126		151.79		
			Mar-07	180	235	230	150	125	146	120	126		164.00		
3.4	Average market price of kerosene	Rs./litre	May07	50	56	73	100	52	100	51	53		66.75	WFP	
			Apr-07	48	55	73	100	51	100	50	53		66.08		
			Mar-07	48	55	88	100	54	100	49	55		68.63		
3.5	Average market price of red lentils	Rs./kg	May07	80	82	83	65	85	65	84	80		77.94	WFP	
			Apr-07	80	82	68	70	80	65	84	80		76.01		
			Mar-07	83	77	72	70	79	65	68	80		74.25		
3.6	Average daily wages, skilled labour	Rs.	May07	900	950	650	700	-	700	975	-		812.50	ILO	Data reflects range midpoint.
			Apr-07	900	950	775	700	-	700	975	-		833.33		
			Mar-07	900	1050	775	700	-	700	1000	-		854.17		
3.7	Average daily wages, unskilled labour	Rs.	May07	600	600	550	500	-	500	575	-		554.17	ILO	Data reflects range midpoint.
			Apr-07	600	600	575	550	-	575	575	-		579.17		
			Mar-07	600	600	575	550	-	550	550	-		570.83		
3.8	Variation of average retail price of fresh fish with respect to standard price	%	May07	42	65	137	58	28	N/A	9	37		53.71	FAO	Standard price refers to the average retail price of this good 12 months prior to the reporting month
			Apr-07	60	8	94	17	11	N/A	9	32		33.00		
			Mar-07	40	11	100	29	5	N/A	6	27		31.14		
3.9	Variation of average retail price of dry fish with respect to standard price	%	May07	59	25	73	67	-2	N/A	3	14		34.14	FAO	Standard price refers to the average retail price of this good 12 months prior to the reporting month
			Apr-07	46	25	73	25	-3	N/A	-2	14		25.43		
			Mar-07	40	26	-23	33	0	N/A	-5	14		12.14		
3.10	Variation of average retail price of eggs with respect to standard price	%	May07	61	14	233	25	11	N/A	6	67		59.57	FAO	Standard price refers to the average retail price of this good 12 months prior to the reporting month
			Apr-07	67	29	233	25	11	N/A	6	50		60.14		
			Mar-07	29	0	233	11	-10	N/A	0	50		44.71		

Joint UN North East Situation Monitoring Report – May 2007

Indicator	Unit	Month	Ampara	Batticaloa	Jaffna	Kilinochchi	Mannar	Mullaitivu	Trincomalee	Vavuniya	Total	Average	Resp.	Trends / Comments	
3.11	Variation of average retail price of fresh vegetables with respect to standard price	%	May07	12	22	35	8	11	N/A	0	-5	11.86	FAO	Standard price refers to the average retail price of this good 12 months prior to the reporting month	
			Apr-07	19	19	0	9	-10	N/A	1	-26	1.71			
			Mar-07	39	32	40	-17	4	N/A	6	-17	12.43			
4.1	Underage recruits reported	Number	May07	4	6	0	3	0	1	0	1	15	1.88	UNICEF	Includes both LTTE and Karuna faction; Continually revised based on incoming reports.
			Apr-07	7	6	0	4	2	4	2	3	28	3.50		
			Mar-07	0	14	0	7	0	4	1	2	28	3.50		
4.2	Underage releases reported	Number	May07	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	5	0.63	UNICEF	Includes both LTTE and Karuna faction; Continually revised based on incoming reports.
			Apr-07	1	0	0	9	0	2	0	0	12	1.50		
			Mar-07	0	19	0	6	0	5	0	1	31	3.88		
4.3	IDPs, by present location	Number of people	May07	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	UNHCR		
			Apr-07	12,316	139,760	39,973	46,643	14,625	31,185	7,187	7,995	299,684			
			Mar-07	8,752	155,872	40,662	45,697	14,896	26,234	2,840	7,926	302,879			
5.1	Hartals	Number	May07	4	0	6	5	0	0	0	3	18	UN DSS		
			Apr-07	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	7			
			Mar-07	1	0	0	5	0	0	1	1	8			
5.2	Security incidents - killings	Number	May07	10	25	28	52	0	0	15	11	141	UN DSS		
			Apr-07	28	24	33	0	16	0	9	77	187			
			Mar-07	40	13	35	16	7	N/A	18	47	176			
5.3	Security incidents involving humanitarian workers	Number	May07	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	9	UN DSS		
			Apr-07	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1			
			Mar-07	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	8	10			
5.4	Arrests under the Emergency Regulations/ Prevention of Terrorism Act	Number	May07	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	UN HRA		
			Apr-07	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0			
			Mar-07	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0			
5.5	Disappearances reported to the Human Rights Commission	Number	May07	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	UN HRA		
			Apr-07	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0			
			Mar-07	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0			
6.1	Humanitarian agencies present	Number	May07	145	91	37	64	61	51	144	54	647	OCHA	Pls see narrative report	
			Apr-07	143	91	36	60	30	51	144	53	608			
			Mar-07	144	90	36	60	30	51	144	53	608			
6.2	UN projects disrupted due to security reasons	Number	May07	-	4	-	38	6	25	0	-	73	OCHA		
			Apr-07	-	6	-	38	6	25	0	-	75			
			Mar-07	-	6	-	38	6	25	0	-	75			
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
OCHA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSF-H opened an office in Kilinochchi • DRC opened an office in Jaffna • Solidar & GTZ start operations in Ampara • The total number of agencies has increased due to the addition of local NGOs who gave information in Mannar & Vavuniya
UNICEF	<p>In Kilinochchi, the ZDE no longer reports school closure days. However, there is anecdotal evidence that education is disrupted by conflict-related incidents, air attacks, and other reasons.</p> <p>In Batticaloa, closure reported is due to schools being used as IDP camps. Additional closures due to teachers being attached to other schools are difficult to verify, but do exist. Overall student attendance is also very poor, due to various reasons.</p>
IOM	<p>All IOM field offices fully functioned throughout the month of May 07. Implementation of programme activities was restricted in many parts of the north and east, due to violence. Construction activities in Jaffna and the Vanni are practically halted due to serious shortage of fuel and construction materials, which cannot be transported into those areas. The lack of security and frequent checkpoints significantly slowed programmes in Mannar, Vavuniya and Batticaloa.</p>

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.