

**2019 APRIL 24, 2100hrs**

**SARVODAYA SOCIAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE /BRIEF (02) /EASTER ATTACKS 2019**

***INTERNAL/EXTERNAL***

**(A)BACKGROUND**

On 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2019, Easter Sunday morning, there were a series of bomb attacks in different locations in Sri Lanka including in the capital city Colombo. The attacks targeted Catholic/ Christian places of worship as well as major hotels in Colombo. Six coordinated blasts targeting Easter celebrations were carried out within a span of 45 minutes, the GoSL is of the opinion that a local radical group with international connections have orchestrated the attacks. Investigations are still ongoing and the terrorist group has not been identified concretely. The forces are still running checks and investigations throughout the island and there had been incidents of explosives being found at several locations and defused under control explosions.

As of today (**24 April 2019, 1000hrs**), **359** persons including 35 foreign nationals have been confirmed dead and over 450 are being treated for injuries ranging from minor to intensive care. More corpses are to be identified at the morgues by family members and Sarvodaya is providing assistance to family members arriving to identify.

As a nation we are all shaken up by these horrific attacks and we are mourning the loss of our fellow brothers and sisters. The situation in our country is unstable and we are unsure of the events that may unfold. However Sarvodaya had immediately begun its emergency operation yesterday by being on standby in the affected areas through our district centres. We have formed an Emergency Operations Committee chaired by the President of Sarvodaya with senior staff of Sarvodaya and external volunteer experts.

Immediate action include; supporting the affected families with aid and psycho-social support, visiting the affected families (door-to-door) and understanding their needs , mobilising our inter-religious island wide network to promote peace and reconciliation, and mobilising our youth networks to support grassroots efforts to contain eruption of communal violence.

We have also been making appeals to the general public through social media requesting them to remain calm and avoid spreading or sharing messages of hatred that may instigate violence. We are closely monitoring the situation and will respond as the situation demands. We are very much grateful for the kind thoughts, prayers and contributions we have been receiving from all our friends local and in the international community.

For more information you can contact Chamindha (Executive Director) on [chamindha@sarvodaya.org](mailto:chamindha@sarvodaya.org) +94777710205 OR Udesh on [udesh@sarvodaya.org](mailto:udesh@sarvodaya.org), +94714738011

We will keep you updated on the situation on a daily basis.

Dr.Vinya Ariyaratne  
President – Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement

**(B) DECISIONS : ACTION PLAN**

| ITEM | DESCRIPTION  | Responsibility                     | Notes  |
|------|--|------------------------------------|--|
| 1.0  | <p><b>Support the victims and people affected by the attacks: Sarvodaya-Colombo, Gampaha, and Batticaloa are instructed to visit the churches, and houses of the affected people, and to extend any immediate support (in terms of financial and in-kind) to manage the immediate situations including the funerals.</b></p>   | <p>DCs : CMB, GMP, BAT<br/>FoD</p> | <p>ongoing , centrally as well as district basis</p>                                     |
| 1.2  | <p>Today, 63 families of injured receiving treatment at Batticaloa General Hospital given Rs.5000.00 each to manage the immediate expenses.</p> <p>Due to Hartal (<i>strike and closure action</i>) in the East coast, Batticaloa relief operations require prioritisation. Shop closures severely affect victim families and Sarvodaya will closely monitor their needs.</p> <p>A comprehensive list of information about deceased, survivors and victims prepared and already shared with HQ</p> | <p>DC : BAT</p>                    | <p>payments/ one-off</p> <p>social conditions are assess and also relief assistance.</p> |
| 1.3  | <p>Taking part and assisting in funeral arrangements. (Food, relied as well as social monitoring in funeral held areas)</p>  | <p>DC : CMB, BAT</p>               | <p>Ongoing</p>   |

| ITEM       | DESCRIPTION  | Responsibility                  | Notes   |
|------------|--|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>1.4</b> | <p>Providing food and water to relatives and families of the deceased identifying corpses at the Colombo mortuary.</p> <p>- 24/4 approx 150 people were taken care of DC CMB in terms of providing support, refreshments for the families of the deceased at the morgue premises</p>   | DC : CMB, Disaster Response     | Ongoing<br>round 02   |
| <b>2.0</b> | <p>Sarvodaya and Sarvodaya Vishva Nickethan (VN) is working on providing psych-social support for the survivors and victims families, and we are in discussion with CARITAS Sri Lanka as well as the catholic church on this.</p> <p>Majority of victims require a Catholic/Christian approach to counselling hence we try our best to collaborate with Catholic and christian bodies.</p> <p>VN is already in touch with experts on disaster related psychological care and are preparing in advance to briefly train accredited counsellors along with a team of para-psychologists (international experts) on the field.</p> <p>Specialist child care needs and scanning for victim children will be coordinated by Sarvodaya Suwasetha</p> | VISHVA NIKETAN<br><br>Suwasetha | Discussion stage 2 with CARITAS and other Christian establishments<br><br>Counsellor training already in loop |

| ITEM | DESCRIPTION  | Responsibility                              | Notes   |
|------|--|---|---|
| 3.0  | <p>Sarvodaya Shanthi Sena (the youth peace brigades) are mobilising their existing inter-faith circles in the affected districts, and in other hotspots to get religious leaders of all religions on board to prevent any further escalation of communal violence.</p> <p>SSS will arrange key discussions with Muslim clerics as well as Business leaders in the coming days to expand efforts to curb potential communal violence.</p> | Shanthi Sena (SSS) - Inter religious boards | ongoing, CMB DC and SSS already conducted different rounds of talks |
| 4.0  | Sarvodaya district offices are mobilising Sarvodaya membership, and facilitating the activation, and convening of the Community Police Teams in all areas, to ensure security, as well as to prevent the spread of violence.   | FoD - DCS - HQ                              | discussion stage 2  |
| 5.0  | <p>Volunteer requests and volunteer management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- as of 24/4 number of volunteers reporting has increased. They will be working with different sub-committees responding to the situation.</li> <li>- sub com on volunteers will register volunteers &amp; their interest</li> <li>- coordinating, brief training and deployment (depending on the nature of action)</li> </ul>               | SIHL & INT                                  | Ongoing   |

| ITEM       | DESCRIPTION   | Responsibility                        | Notes   |
|------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>6.0</b> | Media coordination<br>- press briefings<br>- content creation for different media platforms and audiences<br>- messages of peace will be disseminated using different platforms | MEDIA                                 | press-statements sent<br><br>video clips being produced / ready for circulation   |
| <b>7.0</b> | Local and International Partner Coordination<br>- Executive Director's and President's bureau will be directly handling donor requests as well as other partnership initiatives | PRESIDENT's Bureau<br><br>ED's Bureau | ongoing,<br><br>already established connections with local and international orgs and well-wishers<br><br>also managing requests for the same |

### (C) SUPPLEMENTARY INFO :

#### C1) SARVODAYA SOCIAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE SUB-COMMITTEES

- 1) Emergency Relief & Field Response - Medical and Psychosocial support
- 2) Media
- 3) Peace and inter-ethnic/religious dialogue
- 4) National & International Partner/Donor Coordination
- 5) Volunteer coordination
- 6) Finance
- 7) Security of operations and field teams

#### C2) INFO ON DONATIONS

We have our Sampath Bank Payment Gateway for donations (with [www.sarvodaya.org](http://www.sarvodaya.org)). The contact details of Sarvodaya USA, which has approved charity status there are given below, and please contact them

OR Sarvodaya HQ, Finance Coordinator Mr. Kamal Gamage for any possible support for the affected people. Kamal Mobile: +94759360542, [kamal@sarvodaya.org](mailto:kamal@sarvodaya.org)

Name: Bridgette Weber, Treasurer - Sarvodaya USA, Email: [bridgette@sarvodayausa.org](mailto:bridgette@sarvodayausa.org), Phone: 1-608-567-4421

### Other methods

Sarvodaya (Sampath Bank) direct payment gateway -

<http://www.sarvodaya.org/donate/donate.html>

### PayPal Donations

For the simplest donation we recommend using PayPal to donate to our Sarvodaya USA branch. PayPal does not currently interconnect with Sri Lankan banks, but through Sarvodaya USA we are able to transfer these funds and use them for direct relief efforts. PayPal processes Visa and Mastercard. These donations are tax deductible in the USA.

*Please donate via the secure 'Make A Donation' button in the sidebar at right.*

### Donations To Our Sri Lankan Bank

You may donate online via Sampath Bank, one of Sri Lanka's leading banks. This payment gateway accepts Mastercard and Visa. These donations are not tax-deductible.

### Cheques and Money Orders

In Sri Lanka you may mail a cheque to the following address, or visit us in person!

**Sarvodaya Headquarters**  
**No 98, Rawatawatta Road,**  
**Moratuwa , Sri Lanka**

For tax exemption in the US, please contact Sarvodaya USA. Sarvodaya USA is a 501 ( c ) 3 tax-exempt, non-profit organization which will provide a receipt for your donation. Sarvodaya USA's tax ID number is 13-3358148. You may send a check to our Madison Office:

Payable To: Sarvodaya USA

Mailing Address:

*Sarvodaya USA, 1127 University Ave, Madison, WI 53715 USA*

### Wire Transfers, Bank Accounts

#### For local donations (LKR)

*Bank Name : Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC*

*Bank Account : 1590008015*

*Currency : USD*

*Bank Address : No.766, Galle Road, Idama, Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.*

*Swift Code : CCEYLKXXXX*

#### For foreign donations

*Bank Name : Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC*

*Bank Account : 1590008015*

*Currency : USD*

*Bank Address : No.766, Galle Road, Idama, Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.*

*Swift Code : CCEYLKXXXX*

Please do not send clothing, medicine, supplies or other material items to Sarvodaya or Sarvodaya USA without official confirmation. Thank you for your good work and compassion.

**-END-**

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**SSERB2/EA2019/66pg/UdF**