

**CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-  
PERSONNEL MINES AND THEIR DESTRUCTION**

**STATE : DEM**

**OCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA**

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**INITIAL REPORT  
DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA**

**INFORMATION PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 7, PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE,  
STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

**1. Introduction**

The three decade-long civil conflict between Sri Lanka's security forces and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Elam (LTTE) left many areas in the Northern and Eastern parts of the country contaminated by anti-personnel mines (APM) and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW). Both Sri Lanka's security forces and the LTTE laid mines. The Indian Peacekeeping Forces also used landmines during their presence in the affected area from July 1987 to January 1990.

Sri Lanka's security forces used APM and anti-tank (AT) mines; all were recorded. After ratification of CCW's Amended Protocol II in September 2004, all mines laid by the security forces were reportedly in accordance with the provisions of this protocol. The security forces handed over all minefield records to the mine action programme at the end of the conflict. All information is stored in the national Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) database.

The LTTE used protective minefields in front of their defensive positions. They laid mostly AP mines and also utilised some AT mines. No LTTE minefield records are available. The LTTE also made use of nuisance mines, to prevent access to facilities including wells, buildings, roads and footpaths. Some mines were also scattered on the ground during the LTTE's rapid retreat during the final stages of the conflict in 2009. The LTTE used improvised explosive devices (IEDs) in the form of mortar shells connected to tripwires to act as fragmentation mines, bar mines, electrical and magnetically initiated explosive devices/ mines placed at strategic locations and mines connected with detonating cord to mortar/artillery shells from a distance. The LTTE manufactured most of the mines they used themselves; some were designed with anti-lift/anti-tilt mechanisms to prevent the removal of the mine from the ground after it was laid.

Starting in 2002, some mine/ERW-contaminated areas in the Northern and Eastern Provinces were cleared. The escalation of the conflict in 2006, however, resulted in areas being re-contaminated, in particular in the Northern and Eastern Provinces.

Sri Lanka's ERW contamination mainly consists of unexploded airdropped bombs, artillery - delivered shells, mortar bombs, handheld anti-tank projectiles, rifle grenades and hand grenades. There are also sizeable caches of abandoned explosive ordnance, particularly in the North. When IDPs and refugees started returning to conflict-affected areas after 2009, the GoSL believed that Mine Risk Education (MRE) coupled with an effective Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) response would be sufficient to address the ERW threat. During late 2010/early 2011, hundreds of ERW were reported every month by villagers and cleared by the Sri Lanka Army (SLA).

The remaining contamination is predominantly located in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, some of the most impoverished parts of the country. Minefields prevent access to agricultural land, land for resettlement, water sources and key secondary infrastructure, hindering socio-economic development where it is most needed. The impact of mines is felt acutely by displaced families, including female-headed households, who are awaiting mine clearance before they can return, rebuild their homes and engage in safe and sustainable livelihood activities.

As people return to their homes, it is essential that areas used for livelihoods are cleared simultaneously. Despite the clear demarcations of contaminated land and sustained MRE efforts, there is a real risk that returnees will enter contaminated areas (especially into agricultural land) to meet their livelihood needs. It is therefore imperative that livelihood needs are taken into consideration in the prioritisation processes related to resettlement plans, as is currently the case.

## **2. National Implementation Measures**

The GoSL deposited the instrument of accession to the Convention on 14 December 2017, furthering our commitment for a mine free Sri Lanka by 2020. The Cabinet of Ministers instructed the Ministry of Justice to liaise with the Legal Draftsman's Department to draft enabling legislation, considering the dualist nature of the Sri Lankan legal system. Accordingly, a preliminary draft has been made available to which the Attorney General's Department has also provided their comments. Considering the importance of following an inclusive process, the draft will be taken up for discussion among all key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Defence, pursuant to being submitted for the final approval of the Cabinet of Ministers.

### 3. Stockpiled Anti-Personnel Mines

As End of April 2019, Sri Lanka possessed **62,510** stockpiled anti-personnel mines.

TYPE	QUANTITY POSSESSED	LOT NUMBERS
<b>SLA Army</b>		
P4MK 1	1,828	OPS/OLLB/801/95/39
P4MK 11	54,186	301-1,017-1,007-1,030-1,081-1,019-2
TYPE 72	1,334	47-95-652A
VS 50	1,208	UNKNOWN
Type 1969	254	UNKNOWN
PRB 409	47	1-0101-74
<b>SLA Sub Total</b>	<b>58,857</b>	
<b>SLA Navy</b>		
NEL (POF)	10	UNKNOWN
NEL (CH)	06	
<b>SLA Navy Sub Total</b>	<b>16</b>	
<b>Sri Lanka Air Force</b>		
AP MINES P4MK I	01	UNKNOWN
AP MINES P4MK II	2,943	042,039,030,060,001,034,064,019,058,057,074,034,21,002,022,006,018,019,020,022,024,025,030,038,043,044,048,050,57,058,059,060,067,60,018
<b>Air Force Sub Total</b>	<b>2,944</b>	
<b>Sri Lanka Police - STF</b>		
P4MK 2	693	UNKNOWN
<b>Police - STF Sub Total</b>	<b>693</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>62,510</b>	

Data Source - Ministry of Defence Data's

Sri Lanka has established a Committee on Stockpile Destruction made up of senior officials from the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Tri-forces to monitor its programme for the destruction of anti-personnel mines, to ensure that destruction respects relevant legislative measures, international obligations and to report as required.

Destroyed Mine details are as follows;

<b>TYPE</b>	<b>QUANTITY DESTROYED</b>	<b>LOT NUMBERS</b>	<b>Date of Destroyed</b>	<b>Place of Destroyed</b>
<b>Sri Lanka Army</b>				
P4 MARK II	5222	UNKNOWN	01-Jul-18 - 30 Sep 2018	Colombo
P4 MARK II	14,387	UNKNOWN	01 Oct 18 -31Mar 19	Bogoda Range
<b>Sri Lanka Navy</b>				
MINES ANTI PERSONNEL (POF)	48,792	12-97, 08-97, 94, 56, 15,16,92,95	04 July 2016 - 05 January 2017	Trincomalee Base
MINES ANTI PERSONNEL (CH)	1,368			
<b>Sri Lanka Air Force</b>				
P4 MARK 11	1,350	UNKNOWN	Jul-18	SL Ari Force Station Palavi
P4 MARK 11	29	UNKNOWN	Feb-18	SL Ari Force Station Palavi
P4 MARK 11	968	UNKNOWN	01 Dec 18 -31Dec 18	SLAF Range Kalpitiya
<b>SRI LANKA POLICE (STF)</b>				
P4 MARK 11	272	UNKNOWN	Oct - 2018	STF Shastraweli Camp
<b>Total</b>	<b>57,033</b>			

Data Source - Ministry of Defence Data's

Demolition Plan is as follows;

Type of Mine	Quantity	Time Plan		Method of Destruction	Demolished Site
		From	To		
<b>SL Army</b>					
P4 Mark II	23,680	1/4/2019	31-3-2020	By Burning	Kalpitiya (Puttalam District)
	5,098	1/4/2020	30-6-2020		
	579	1/7/2020	31-7-2020		
	12,000	1/8/2020	31-12-2020		
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,357</b>				

Data Source - Ministry of Defence Data's

#### 4. Anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for permitted purposes

As End of April 2019, the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka retained **21,153** anti-personnel mines for purposes permitted under Article 3 of the Convention:

TYPE	QUANTITY RETAINED	LOT NUMBERS
<b>Sri Lanka Army</b>		
P4MK 1	1,828	OPS/OLLB/801/95/39
P4MK 11	12,829	301-1,017-1,007-1,030-1,081-1,019-2
Type 72	1,334	UNKNOWN
VS 50	1,208	UNKNOWN
Type 1969	254	UNKNOWN
PRB 409	47	UNKNOWN
<b>SLA Sub Total</b>	<b>17,500</b>	UNKNOWN
<b>SLA Navy</b>		
P4MK 1	16	UNKNOWN
<b>SLA Navy Sub Total</b>	<b>16</b>	
<b>Sri Lanka Air Force</b>		
AP MINES P4MK II	2,944	042,039,030,060,001,034,064,019,058,057,074,034,21,002,022,006,018,019,020,022,024,025,030,038,043,044,048,050,57,058,059,060,067,60,018

<b>Air Force Sub Total</b>	<b>2,944</b>	
<b>Sri Lanka Police - STF</b>		
P4MK 1	693	UNKNOWN
<b>Police - STF Sub Total</b>	<b>693</b>	

<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>21,153</b>	
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Data Source - Ministry of Defence Data's

Sri Lanka has authorised the following institutions to retain anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes: the Armed Forces training Centres for Weapons and Ammunition; Sri Lanka Army Humanitarian De-mining Unit of Dog Handling Training Centre at Boo Oya, Vavuniya; Sri Lanka School of Engineering in Ambilipitiya and the training centres mentioned in the table below.

Sri Lanka retains anti-personnel mines for training the mine detection dogs, testing demining mechanical assets and studying the effect of the blast of various types of anti-personnel mines on demining equipment. Government authorised institutions used **21,153** anti-personnel mines for permitted purposes as follows:

TYPE	QUANTITY USED	AUTHORIZED INSTITUTION	LOT NUMBERS	ACTUAL USE
<b>Sri Lanka Army</b>				
P4MK 1	1,000	ENGR BDE	OPS/OLLB/801/95/39	FOR SEASONED MIND FIELD PREPARATION/TEST PITS
P4MK 1	800	ENGR BDE	OPS/OLLB/801/95/39	TEST PREPARATION AT SITES
P4MK 1	3,000	SLSME	OPS/OLLB/801/95/39	USE 3 MINES PER STUDENT FOR A TRAINING YEAR
P4MK 1	2,000	SLSME	OPS/OLLB/801/95/39	A MINE FOR EACH STUDENTS FOR A TRAINING YEAR
P4MK 1	700	SLSME	OPS/OLLB/801/95/39	INTRODUCTION TO MINE WARFARE
P4MK 1	10,000	SLSME	OPS/OLLB/801/95/39	1 MINE FOR EACH STUDENT (STUDENTS OF SISTER SERVICES ON DEMINING AND EOD
<b>SLA Sub Total</b>	<b>17,500</b>			
<b>SL Navy</b>				
<b>P4MK 1</b>	8	SLNS THAMBAPANNI PUTTALAM	NO LOT	USED FOR TRAINING BDE SCHOOL MAHAWA

<b>P4MK 1</b>	2	SBS HQ DOCKYARD, TRINCOMALEE	NO LOT	USED FOR TRAINING (MODEL ROOM DISPLAY)
<b>Type 72</b>	1	SLNS MAHANAGA PANAMA	NO LOT	USED FOR TRAINING (MODEL ROOM DISPLAY)
<b>Type 72</b>	2	SLNS VIDURA PANAMA	NO LOT	USED FOR TRAINING (MODEL ROOM DISPLAY)
<b>Type 72</b>	2	SBS HQ DOCKYARD, TRINCOMALEE	<b>60-95-652</b>	<b>USED FOR TRAINING (MODEL ROOM DISPLAY)</b>
<b>Type 72</b>				
Type 72	1	SLNS SHILPA THALATHU OYA, KANDY	NO LOT	USED FOR TRAINING (MODEL ROOM DISPLAY)
<b>SL Navy Sub Total</b>	<b>16</b>			
<b>Sri Lanka Air Force</b>				
P4MK II	1,492	SL Air Force Academy Chinabay	042,039,030,060,001,03 4,064,019,058,057,074, 034,21,002,022	Train Officers, Officer Cadetes, Recruits and Airmen on arming, laying, recovering, disarming, detection, effect of Mines, De-Mining and disposal.
P4MK II	1,450	SL Air Force Station Palavi	006,018,019,020,022,02 4,025,030,038,043,044, 048,050, 057,058,059,060,067	
P4MK II	2	SL Air Force Station Ampara	60,018	
<b>Air Force Sub Total</b>	<b>2,944</b>			
<b>Sri Lanka Police - STF</b>				
P4MK 1	685	STF - Gonahena	UNKNOWN	Basic and Refresher Training course
P4MK 1	08	STF - Katukurunda	UNKNOWN	
<b>Police - STF Sub Total</b>	<b>693</b>			
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>21,153</b>			

Data Source - Ministry of Defence Data's



## 5. Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines

As At 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019, there were 271 areas in Sri Lanka identified to contain anti-personnel mines totalling 22,427,433 square metres and 9 areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines totalling 1,392,454 square metres. Areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines remain in 9 Districts in all three Provinces of Sri Lanka as follows:

*Summary of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines as end of April 2019*

Province	District	Number of areas known to contain anti-personnel mines	Number of areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines	Total number of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines	Amount of area known to contain anti-personnel mines (square meters)	Amount of area suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (square meters)	Total amount of area known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines (square meters)
Northern	Jaffna	16	1	17	1,635,450	182,783	1,818,233
	Kilinochchi	77	-	77	9,541,362	-	9,541,362
	Mannar	53	2	55	1,626,788	76,177	1,702,965
	Mullaitivu	94	5	99	7,911,557	649,220	8,560,777
	Vavuniya	18	1	19	1,303,850	667,057	1,970,907
<b>Northern Province Total</b>		<b>258</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>22,019,007</b>	<b>1,392,454</b>	<b>23,594,244</b>
Eastern	Ampara	1	-	1	12,686	-	12,686
	Batticaloa	1	-	1	8,294	-	8,294
	Trincomalee	7	-	7	170,922	-	170,922
<b>Eastern Province Total</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>191,902</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>191,902</b>
North Central	Anuradhapura	4	-	4	216,524	-	216,524
<b>North Central Province Total</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>216,524</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>216,524</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>271</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>22,427,433</b>	<b>1,392,454</b>	<b>24,002,670</b>

Data Source - Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) Database

Since demining operations started in 2002, Sri Lanka has been able to declare 4,616 areas totalling 1,280,525,481 square metres no longer dangerous due to the presence or suspected presence of anti-personnel mines and is suitable for normal human activity. Areas were released in Districts in three Provinces, with the effort resulting in implementation being declared complete in Northern, Eastern, and North Central Provinces. In the course of carrying out operations to release these areas, a total of 737,464 anti-personnel mines and 1,407,689 other explosive items (i.e., anti-vehicle mines and UXO) were destroyed.

Summary of area and areas released and devices destroyed, 2002 - end of April 2019

Province	District	Cancelled area (square meters)	Reduced area (square meters)	Cleared area (square meters)	Total area released (square meters)	Number of anti-personnel mines destroyed	Number of other explosive items destroyed	Number of areas released
Northern	Jaffna	3,913,285	56,002,260	21,746,540	81,662,085	183,015	228,888	1,282
	Kilinochchi	684,120	39,142,584	17,740,297	57,515,911	116,543	411,080	724
	Mannar	18,154,213	183,875,835	30,442,969	232,427,581	117,354	127,098	540
	Mullaitivu	9,643,914	165,904,523	30,020,987	205,475,351	149,890	554,993	984
	Vavuniya	3,076,645	79,139,109	9,582,629	91,798,383	142,051	56,899	624
Northern Province Total		35,472,177	524,064,311	109,533,422	668,879,310	708,853	1,378,958	4,154
Eastern	Batticaloa	15,254,300	357,348,043	8,286,554	380,888,897	12,804	19,215	270
	Ampara	37,845	104,017,318	7,225,371	111,280,534	593	3,467	20
	Trincomalee	6,531,559	100,790,106	11,582,470	118,904,135	9,962	6,029	146
Eastern Province Total		21,823,704	562,155,467	27,094,395	611,073,566	23,359	28,711	436
North Central	Anuradhapura	31,244	184,840	230,969	447,053	4,036	19	21
	Polonnaruwa	12,150	19,856	75,313	107,319	401	1	4
North Central Province Total		43,394	204,696	306,282	554,372	4,437	20	25
North West Puttalam			472	17,761	18,233	815		1
North West Province Total			472	17,761	18,233	815		1
Grand Total		57,339,275	1,086,424,946	136,951,860	1,280,525,481	737,464	1,407,689	4,616

Data Source - Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) Database

Sri Lanka has made projections for the year when each of the remaining 280 areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines would be released. At the end of 2020, it is projected that 271 areas will be cleared from anti-personnel mines totalling 22,427,433 square metres and 09 areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines totalling 1,392,454 square metres will be released in the Northern, Eastern and North Central Provinces.

Summary of projections for the number of areas and the amount of area (square metres) known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines to be released 2019-2020

**All District summaries to be cleared**

<b>District</b>	<b>Remaining Area IMSMA</b>	<b>Area cleared but not included on IMSMA</b>	<b>Area to be cancelled</b>	<b>Area to be reduced</b>	<b>Additional Area</b>	<b>Area Remaining</b>
Ampara	12,686	6,253	0	0	0	6,433
Anuradhapura	216,524	23,344	0	0	0	193,180
Batticaloa	8,294	0	0	0	0	8,294
Jaffna	1,818,233	191,511	207,097	0	0	1,626,722
Kilinochchi	9,541,362	3,769,112	2,490	553,604	0	5,218,646
Mannar	1,702,966	582,775	0	458,630	0	661,561
Mullaitivu	8,560,777	454,993	0	1,142,761	0	6,963,023
Trincomalee	170,922	49,724	0	27,409	0	121,198
Vavuniya	1,970,907	0	0	348,898	0	1,122,009
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,002,671</b>	<b>5,077,712</b>	<b>209,587</b>	<b>2,503,893</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16,421,066</b>

<b>Year</b>		<b>Eastern</b>	<b>North Central</b>	<b>Northern</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2019</b>	<b>Areas</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>93</b>
	<b>Area</b>	<b>29,496</b>	<b>92,236</b>	<b>7,859,916</b>	<b>7,981,648</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Areas</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>117</b>
	<b>Area</b>	<b>162,406</b>	<b>124,288</b>	<b>8,897,856</b>	<b>9,184,550</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Areas</b>			<b>70</b>	<b>70</b>
	<b>Area</b>			<b>6,836,473</b>	<b>6,836,473</b>
<b>2019- 2021</b>	<b>Areas</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>280</b>
	<b>Area</b>	<b>191,902</b>	<b>216,524</b>	<b>23,594,245</b>	<b>24,002,671</b>

Data Source - Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) Database

**Sri Lanka has committed Rs.20,000,000 (US\$ \$ 118,497 at current exchange rates)** per year from 2018 to 2020 to cover the administrative costs of Sri Lanka's Mine Action Centre, Sri Lanka Army Humanitarian De-mining Unit and Sri Lanka Navy Humanitarian De-mining Unit which have responsibilities for priority setting, mine action information management, quality assurance and quality control, coordination with demining organization and cooperation partners, and establishing policy and standards. Sri Lanka can furnish a detailed project proposal outlining its funding needs and expected results to those interested in supporting its efforts to complete implementation of Article 5.

All areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines have been marked with warning signs in Sinhala, Tamil and English are prominently displayed. Warning signs are replaced and maintained on a regular basis. Age-appropriate risk-reduction education has been incorporated into the school curriculum in the Northern and Eastern provinces. In addition, community liaison teams consisting of both women and men regularly visit towns and villages that are most at risk to advice on risk avoidance. Efforts are made to tailor messages according to community circumstances.

Despite best efforts to change high risk behaviour, women, girls, boys and men still fall victim to mines in Sri Lanka, including 02 individuals who were killed and 06 who were injured in 2018.

**Sri Lanka is a state that has a responsibility for a high number of landmine survivors.**



*Number of individuals killed or injured by anti-personnel mines, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 - 30<sup>rd</sup> April 2019*

	<b>Women</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Men</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Killed</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Injured</b>	0	0	0	01	<b>01</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>01</b>

Data Source - Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) Database

**Technical characteristics of anti-personnel mines**

<p>Rangan 99 anti-personnel mine (LTTE Developed)</p>  <p>Improved mine with anti-rake device has a pendulum to explode when moved 130g TNT</p>	<p>Directional Fragmentation anti-personnel mine (Claymore)</p>  <p>360' directional improved Claymore mine by LTTE 3-4kg TNT</p>
<p>Directional Fragmentation anti-personnel mine (Claymore)</p>   <p>Mile marker post Claymore LTTE developed 4-6 kg TNT</p>	<p>JONY 95 anti-personnel mine (LTTE Developed)</p>  <p>A small wooden box mine Total Wight – 250g Explosive - 90 g Type of Explosive - TNT</p>

Directional Fragmentation anti-personnel mine (Claymore)	P4 Mk1 and Mk2 Anti-personnel blast mine
 <p>           LTTE developed            Total Weight – 2 kg            Explosive - 250 g            Type of Explosive – C4         </p>	 <p>           Height: 40mm            Diameter: 70mm            Main charge: 30g            Type of Explosive: TNT         </p>

#### Conversion or decommissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities

Not applicable.

#### 8. Victim Assistance

The first mine/ERW related incidents were recorded in 1982 when two incidents occurred with a casualty in each. The figures escalated to 162 incidents and 211 casualties in 2001. The numbers dramatically reduced over the years but were slowly raised with the return of the IDP population from 2009 to 2012. The figures for the 01<sup>st</sup> September 2018 to year 2019 until end of April is One Mine/ ERW civilian casualty despite higher numbers of explosive devices were reported by the community members in their resettlement villages. This situation is clear evidence for the improvement in Mine Safe behaviour among the effected communities.

UNICEF supported Victim Assistance service providers, albeit at a much lower scale than MRE, Ministries dealing with VA as part of their disability focus or in support of victims of the conflict including the Ministry of Social Services, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Defence (Directorate of Rehabilitation).

In Sri Lanka, data on people with disabilities is scarce; data on mine/ERW victims exist. During 2017, Non-Communicable Disease Unit in the Ministry of Health established and rolled out the injury surveillance system at 14 hospitals. During 2018, injury surveillance system was further expanded to 90 hospitals and around 47,939 all forms of child injuries were reported and analysed. This analysed information on child injuries and related causes will feed into on-going policy development and programme design and implementation. In Sri Lanka, free and quality health services are provided to the public. Physical rehabilitative services have improved over recent years but serious gaps remain to be addressed.

In Sri Lanka, the Ministry of Housing and Social Welfare is the lead Ministry for matters pertaining to people with disabilities. Other Ministries, particularly the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Defence, also address important issues relevant to people with injuries and disabilities. Other main stake holders are INGOs (Handicap International, Motivation, Caritas valvuthyam) and MRE NGOs.

In 2016, Sri Lanka acceded to the Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (CRDP) and is bound by its obligations to persons with disabilities including persons who are victims of APMs.

More importantly, in order to provide assistance with Rs. 150,000 per family for livelihood programme ensuring sustainable income to the mine affected victims, a Cabinet Paper was submitted on 11.02.2019 to the Cabinet of Ministers to allocate a total of Rs. 1,000 Mn in year 2019, which is currently in process. Initial focus is to cover 1,000 families who are affected by landmines and ERWs.

#### **A. Data on direct and indirect victims**

##### *Assessment:*

On the basis of survey efforts undertaken by various operators, Sri Lanka Mine Action Authority has records of 1,140 individuals injured by anti-personnel mines and other Explosive Remnants of War since the end of the conflict (reported since 2010) in Sri Lanka, with data gender- and age-disaggregated as follows:

#### **Civilian Mine/ERW casualties**

Year	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Totals
2010	8	17	5	17	47
2011	4	15	0	5	24
2012	6	19	1	21	47
2013	3	7	1	10	21
2014	5	8	1	2	16
2015	0	8	0	0	8
2016	0	8	0	0	8
2017	0	2	0	0	2
2018	0	0	0	0	0
2019	0	0	0	1	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>173</b>

Data Source - Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) Database

Total number of individuals recorded as having been injured by APMs or other ERWs is 1725, since 1985. The total number of people injured is as follows:

District	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Grand Total	
Ampara						2					1	4		4	2			1			6				1			2								23	
Anuradhapura																	11		13	4			4		4												36
Badulla																	6	2	1	1																10	
Batticaloa		2	5	2	1	10	5	1	3		9	1	2	20	17	31	14	3	2	8		26	12	1	8	2					1					186	
Colombo																			2																	2	
Gampaha																		4																		4	
Hambantota																		1		1																2	
Jaffna	1		10	4	1	10	10	5	10	5	9	88	114	69	67	52	113	76	54	23	28	12	4	5	14	22	13	7	1	2				1	830		
Kalutara																			2																	2	
Kegalle																		2																		2	
Kilinochchi							1	1	1	1			1	2	4	42	44	15	21	8	7	2	1			13	6	5		5		4	1			185	
Kurunegala																		4																		4	
Mannar			1		1	5		2	3	2	1	2			6	12	5	5	7	5	2	1		2	2	6		7			3					80	
Matara																		4		1																5	
Monaragala																		2		2																4	
Mullaitivu				1			1							1	9	42	29	12	1	4	1	2				32	4	8	24		11					182	
Nuwara Eliya																		6																		6	
Polonnaruwa																	3	2	7	1								2								15	
Puttalam			6			1										1		4	1			7				1										21	
Trincomalee																	9	7	1	4	1	14	17		1	5		1					1			61	
Vavuniya	1	1		11	2	1	3		2	3			2	2		3	2	5	10		2	3		1	5	2	3	1								65	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1725</b>	

Data Source - Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) Database

During the past 10 years, around 170 civilian casualties were reported due to Mine/ERW incidents. As per the statistics of casualties, it was evident that adult men and boys were more prone/at risk to incidents compared to women and girls. One of the reasons is the free movement of men for livelihood activities compared to women whose movements are restricted within their village boundaries. Also boys enjoy more freedom with their play activities compared to girls.

On the basis of a household survey carried out in the Northern Province in 2012, it is understood that anti-personnel mines or other explosive remnants of war are the source of 4.5% of all injuries in this province. This survey also concluded that 12.6% of the population of the Northern Provinces live with a disability. Anti-personnel mines or other explosive remnants of war were the cause of disability for 0.5% of those living with a disability.



Sri Lanka has no data on indirect victims of anti-personnel mines. However, by relating 2013 census data to the geographic location of areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines, it is possible to estimate that approximately 55,000 people live within 500 metres of an area known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines.

## **B. Medical care**

Assessment:

Persons who suffer traumatic lower limb injuries from causes such as anti-personnel mines / other remnants of war, gun violence, motor vehicle accidents, et cetera receive adequate services.

The Department of Health has even announced a special screening and treatment for all those who has not been attended with very little response. Almost all those victims has been treated and those who are not treated fall into two categories:

1. Those who have residual injuries where there is no need of surgical intervention.
2. Those who refused surgical intervention

The service is available at all District General Hospitals across the Northern Province. Further there is a state-run mobile service in the Northern Province for patients confined to bed.

## **C. Physical rehabilitation**

Assessment:

There are currently five rehabilitation hospitals in country that caters to all patients that need physical rehabilitation including land mine victims which are,

1. Ragama Rheumatology & Rehabilitation Hospital
2. Digana Rehabilitation Hospital
3. Maliban Rehabilitation Hospital
4. Jayanthipura Rehabilitation Hospital
5. Kandagolla Rehabilitation Hospital

Also currently a state of the art Rehabilitation Unit is being constructed at Teaching Hospital Jaffna due to be opened in July 2019.

Very few INGOs/NGOs are mainly involving in physical rehabilitation services In Northern and Eastern parts of the country.

#### **D. Psychological support**

Assessment:

There is a Consultant Psychiatrist (Permanent or Acting), Mental Health Medical Officer, Community Supporting Officers in all Districts in Northern Province.

There are standard screening tools which are used to detect possible symptoms and to suggest the need for a formal diagnostic assessment.

The Mental Health Network is considerably organized and functioning. Basic Counselling Services are available and being further developed. Many NGOs are working towards Mental health well-being in the province.

Objectives:

- By working with international partners, basic counselling services to be extended to each provincial capital by the end of 2016.

*Enhancements made / to be made to pertinent legislation, policies and plans:*

- In 2016, the Ministry of Health proposed a National Mental Health Strategy, drawing in part from the experience of landmine survivors and others in rural areas who have been exposed to a stressful event or situation of exceptionally threatening or catastrophic nature.

#### **E. Economic inclusion**

Assessment:

From the household survey carried out in the Northern Province in 2012, it is known that the unemployment rate for persons with disabilities, including landmines survivors, is 50 per cent. (Note: The overall average unemployment rate in the Northern Province is 38 per cent.) Poverty is widespread in rural areas, which the Government of Sri Lanka is targeting through its Rural Poverty Reduction Strategy.

#### **F. Social inclusion**

Assessment:

- There is an absence of efforts to guarantee the right of persons with disabilities, including landmine survivors, to live independently and to be included in the community, in particular in rural areas.

## Coordination

### Assessment:

The Sri Lankan Mine Action Authority has represented Sri Lanka in all Convention-related discussions. However, to date, interaction between the Sri Lankan Mine Action Authority and other relevant State entities, particularly the National Disability Council and the Ministry of Health, has been unsatisfactory. Moreover, non-governmental organizations have directly engaged Sri Lanka's cooperation partners on initiatives that may be inconsistent with the priorities established in Sri Lanka's National Action Plan on the Equalization of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and National Health Care Plan.

### Objectives:

- Beginning in 2015, the National Disability Council convened inclusive quarterly stakeholders' meetings to ensure sound coordination in the pursuit of aims related to the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the promise made to mine victims through the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention.

### Enhancements made / to be made to pertinent legislation, policies and plans:

- By the end of 2015, consultations had been carried out at the provincial level on ways to update the National Action Plan on the Equalization of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to bring it in line with Sri Lanka's obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- By the end of 2016, the National Action Plan on the Equalization of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was amended, bringing it in line with Sri Lanka's obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

### Results of efforts taken relative to objectives and anticipated enhancements to pertinent legislation, policies and plans:

- In April 2014, the National Disability Council, with the support of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention's Implementation Support Unit and the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, staged an inclusive, multi-stakeholder workshop at the national level on updating the National Action Plan on the Equalization of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This workshop has provided a template for subsequent inclusive consultations at the Provincial level.

## **G. Participation**

### *Assessment:*

The United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has observed that more should be done to include persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in planning, executing and monitoring of public decision-making processes at all levels and, in particular, in the matters affecting them.

### *Objectives:*

- By the end of 2015, persons with disabilities, including landmine survivors where relevant, and their representative organizations were involved in consultations carried out at the provincial level on ways to update the National Action Plan on the Equalization of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to bring it in line with Sri Lanka's obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

### *Enhancements made / to be made to pertinent legislation, policies and plans:*

- By the end of 2016, the National Action Plan on the Equalization of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has been amended to legally require the National Disability Council to consult with persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in planning, executing and monitoring of public decision-making processes.

### *Results of efforts taken relative to objectives and anticipated enhancements to pertinent legislation, policies and plans:*

- In April 2014, the National Disability Council, with the support of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention's Implementation Support Unit and the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, sought to address the concerns raised by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities regarding participation by staging an inclusive, multi-stakeholder workshop at the national level on updating the National Action Plan on the Equalization of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Results of this activity include that persons with disabilities and their representative organizations perceived that they are central participants in planning, executing and monitoring of public decision-making processes. In addition, this workshop has provided a template for subsequent inclusive consultations at the provincial level.

## **Cooperation and assistance**

Not applicable.

Sri Lanka is not a State Party currently in a position to provide assistance to other States Parties.

## **9. Mine Risk Education**

More than three decades of civil war has resulted in significant land contamination by mines/explosive remnants of war (ERW) throughout the North and East of Sri Lanka threatening people's survival and safety and restricting reconstruction and recovery activities in the area. The total known and estimated extent of contamination to-date in the Northern and Eastern Provinces is 24 square km. The Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) has prioritised mine clearance tasks for the purpose of resettlement and agriculture, while surrounding jungle and highly contaminated areas that require years of mine clearance work, will be marked off and cleared at a later stage. ERW residual contamination is a long term problem and Mine Risk Education (MRE) is a pre-requisite for safe return as land release via survey, battle area clearance and demining cannot guarantee land without a residual threat.

Mine Risk Education is being conducted through the UNICEF through local NGOs and Ministry of Education (MOE) for school based MRE and through local NGOs for community based MRE. Since January 2009 to-date, around 520,000 people have been reached by MRE messages in multiple times. The mass media campaign launched in November 2009, had more than doubled the number of MRE facilitators among NGO partners and training has been provided to the Humanitarian Demining Unit (HDU), police officers and Ministry of Education (MoE) staff. Significant efforts were made by UNICEF to incorporate MRE into the school curriculum under 'Life Skills and Civic Education', with approval of the curriculum during 2011. UNICEF supported the MoE and the National Institute of Education in the preparation of MRE-lessons for grades 6-9 and additional teaching materials, and in the training of teachers in high and medium risk areas in the North and East.

As a result of continuous MRE in the Northern and Eastern Province, general levels of understanding the mine/ERW threat and knowing what to do in case of encountering mines, UXO or abandoned ordnance are high. Many people demonstrate mine-smart behaviour by reporting suspected dangerous devices and areas and by educating their family or community members and newcomers on the existing threat and main risk-taking behaviours. All areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines have been marked and warning signs in Sinhala, Tamil and English are prominently displayed. Warning signs are replaced and maintained on a regular basis. In addition, community liaison teams made up of both women and men regularly visit towns and villages that are most at risk to advise women and men on risk avoidance.

Despite best efforts to change high risk behaviour, women, girls, boys and men still fall victim to mines in Sri Lanka, including two individuals who were killed and 7 who were injured in 2018. In 2019 2 casualties were reported till 31st April 2019.

However, as many communities live close to infested or not yet fully surveyed areas the threat in some divisions remains high. Continuous MRE is needed. In addition, people from the South of the Island have started visiting the North and East and need to learn how to behave mine-smart. Special attention needs to be paid to specific livelihoods such as scrap metal collectors (war scrap), fire wood collectors and farmers who face the highest risks. In addition, special efforts are made to tailor messages according to community circumstances and target groups (e.g., according to the main economic, cultural and recreational activities carried in any particular locality). Therefore, despite the continuing de-mining, it remains a necessity to continue addressing such risks through increased, specific and targeted MRE.