#### **School Meals**

Sri Lanka Verein Hamburg e.V. supports the distribution of daily meals in four selected schools.



In good times, one million children in Sri Lanka received free meals at school through the national school feeding program. This guaranteed a balanced meal a day, especially for vulnerable children in the country. However, as a result of the country's severe economic crisis, these funds for school meals were drastically cut in the government's 2022 budget. As a result, many schools reduced the amounts of meals provided to children, and others even stopped serving meals altogether. However, due to rising food prices, parents themselves can hardly ensure adequate nutrition for their children.

Save the Children's Country Director in Sri Lanka warns: "If we do not maintain the school feeding program, we could soon see a situation where we are not just talking about hungry children, but dangerously ill and malnourished children, which could have serious consequences for their school attendance. We could see a situation where more and more children drop out of school."

Against this backdrop, the Sri Lanka Association is making a contribution—albeit limited—to improving the situation of students in a few selected schools, to which we have established direct access through our local coordinator, Anslem Nanayakkara.

With the funds we have already received from members and sponsors following our appeal for donations, we have identified four schools located in the central region in Dambulla, Matale, and Amunugama, which educate a total of 393 children.



Name of School	Grade	Students	Teachers
Walgamwewa Kanishta Vidyalaya	2 - 11	140	16
Madduma Bandara Kanishta Vidyakaya Imbulandanda	1-5	79	6
Naredrasinghe Kanishta Vidyalaya Amunugama	6 - 11	100	20
Tennakoon - Wimalananda MV Amunugama	1-5	74	15
	Total	393	57

Here, daily meals are prepared on-site in sufficient quantities. Essential food items typically used include rice, pulses (dhal), dried fish (sprats), coconuts, red onions, and coconut oil, along with spices such as garlic, salt, chili, mustard, turmeric, and leafy vegetables.

To feed the children, skilled staff are hired to purchase, prepare, and distribute meals, as well as provide suitable rooms and equipment for preparation. In close cooperation with the teaching staff, all processes are monitored, and transparent accounting of financial contributions is ensured by the Sri Lanka Association.

The school feeding program aims to help combat malnutrition among children. The daily meal at school also improves children's school attendance and academic performance.

























