

# Combating Food Insecurity During the Economic and Food Crisis in Sri Lanka

Food insecurity in Sri Lanka is increasing. We continue the important work of distributing dry rations to needy and vulnerable communities. In addition we are initiating and promoting gardening projects at schools and other institutions, for education and to produce healthy food. We have already provided tools, plants, and seeds to one school for the deaf and blind and a drug rehabilitation center. In our presentation to a special education school, the director replied that, although they were very interested in a gardening program, there was a problem on the campus with monkeys and other wild animals. We know that situation all too well, since our lot, garden, and adjacent hillside are frequented by troops of monkeys, porcupines, wild pigs, giant squirrels, and the occasional peacock. Sometimes, we hear air guns, firecrackers, and mysterious explosions, so we know that our neighbors are chasing away these visitors. On the other hand, we welcome them to our “jungle,” but we protect our vegetable garden with “monkey cages” – monkeys on the outside and vegetables on the inside. We feel this would be a viable solution for many institutions, and we would like to help install them. They are quickly built, easy to construct, and inexpensive. We invite donors to share in this program and in providing food during this difficult time.



**“Give a man some food, and you feed him for a day.  
Teach him to farm, and you feed him for a lifetime.” –Anonymous proverb**

**“He who plants a garden plants happiness.” –Chinese proverb**

**“To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.” –Audrey Hepburn**



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