

News Reports on SGBV in Sri Lanka - COVID 19

(From 23 March to 23 April)

About this compilation:

This is a compilation of news articles reported on Sri Lankan news websites on SGBV which largely focus on incidents of domestic violence, cruelty to children and grave sexual abuse/ rape during the Covid19 pandemic.

The articles are arranged chronologically and are for a period of one month from 23rd March 2020 to 23rd April 2020 during which time Sri Lanka underwent complete island wide as well as regional curfew.

Newspaper articles in English, Sinhala and Tamil languages have been collated. All original newspaper articles can be accessed by clicking on the link provided.

Disclaimer: The same news items may be found reported by several media stations which have been purposely included as a measure of covering all reports of SGBV.

Domestic violence:

- “Spike in domestic violence cases” – *Daily News*, 23rd March 2020
<http://www.dailynews.lk/2020/03/23/local/215059/spike-domestic-violence-cases>
- Activists over the world have pointed out the increase of domestic violence due to the lockdown resulting in victims having to live with their abusers round the clock.
“Lockdown intensifies domestic violence - Men taking it out on wives” – *Sunday Observer*, 05th April 2020
<https://www.sundayobserver.lk/2020/04/05/news-features/lockdown-intensifies-domestic-violence>
- Approximately 160 people have visited the national hospital in Colombo owing to domestic violence since March 21 till 08 April
“Spike in domestic violence; males vulnerable?” – *News First*, 08th April 2020
<https://www.newsfirst.lk/2020/04/08/spike-in-domestic-violence-males-vulnerable/>
- “කොරෝනා වෛරසය: කොවිඩ්-19 වසංගතය මැද ශාඛස්ථ භීෂනය 'ඉහළට’” (Corona virus: A rise in domestic violence amidst Covid-19 pandemic)- *BCC Sinhala*, 09th April 2020 <https://www.bbc.com/sinhala/world-52213871>
- “கொரோனாவின் கொடூரமும், குடும்பப் பெண்களின் தலைப்பாரமும்” (Brutality of Covid19 and the burden on women) – *Global Tamil News*, 13th April 2020 <http://globaltamilnews.net/2020/140677/>

Cruelty to children:

- National Child Protection Authority informs of a 33% rise in the reporting of child abuse incidents during curfew -
“ඇදිරිනීතිය කාලයේදී ශාඛස්ථ භීෂනය හා කෲරත්වය වැඩිවෙලා” (Increase in domestic violence and cruelty during curfew) – *Lankadeepa*, 25th March 2020 <https://bit.ly/2Kv8Zqs>

- “ළමා අපයෝජන හා ගෘහස්ත විංසන වැඩිවෙලා” (Rise in child abuse and domestic violence) – *Dinamina*, 25th March 2020 <https://bit.ly/2XXvmwJ>
- “Sri Lanka’s NCPA, UNICEF gravely concerned over increase in child cruelty cases since start of COVID-19 curfew” – *Colombo Page*, 09th April 2020 http://www.colombopage.com/archive_20A/Apr09_1586445471CH.php
- In the three-week period between 16 March – 7 April 2020, the proportion of child cruelty cases as a total all reported child protection complaints, rose from 10 per cent to 40 per cent.
“Grave concerns over rise in child cruelty cases in Sri Lanka” – *Colombo Gazette*, 09th April 2020 <https://colombogazette.com/2020/04/09/grave-concerns-over-rise-in-child-cruelty-cases-in-sri-lanka/>
- “කොරෝනාවෛරස්: துன்புறுத்தலுக்கு உள்ளாகும் சிறுவர்கள் - இலங்கை அவலம்” – (Coronavirus: Persecuted Children in Sri Lanka) *BBC Tamil*, 11th April 2020 <https://www.bbc.com/tamil/sri-lanka-52255959>
- “අවුරුදු උදාව සමගම රටම කමිසා කරවූ දරුවන් දෙදෙනාගේ ඝාතනයේ සුළඹුල එළියට” (The reasons behind the murder of two children disclosed with the dawn of the Sinhala Tamil New Year) – *Hiru News*, 14th April 2020 <https://bit.ly/2VRRrdR>
- “கிணற்றில் வீசிக் கொலை செய்யப்பட்ட இரு குழந்தைகளின் உடல்கள் நேற்று நல்லடக்கம்” (Bodies of two children thrown into the well by the father were buried) – *Batti News*, 18th April 2020 http://www.battinews.com/2020/04/blog-post_612.html

Grave sexual abuse/ rape:

- “ප්‍රා.සභා මන්ත්‍රී කෙනෙකුයි තවත් පිරිසකුයි එකතු වෙලා 12 හැවිරිදි දැරියකට ලොකු අපරාධයක් කරලා” (A member of the Pradeshiya Sabha and his stalwarts have committed a grave offence against a 12 year old girl) - *Mawbima*, 07th April 2020 <https://mawbima.lk/entertainment-more/1842>
- “දැරියක් අපයෝජනය කිරීමක් සම්බන්ධයෙන් තණමල්විල දේශපාලඤයෙකුට චෝදනාවක්” (A politician in Thanamaliwila accused of abusing a girl child) – *Ada Derana*, 09th April 2020 <https://bit.ly/2RXvl2U>
- “Party membership of SLPP PS member involved in rape of 13-year-old suspended” – *Daily FT*, 10th April 2020 http://www.ft.lk/breaking_news/Party-membership-of-SLPP-PS-member-involved-in-rape-of-13-year-old-suspended/10526-698749
- “SLPP ousts Thanamalwila PS member who allegedly molested a teen” – *Ada Derana*, 10th April 2020 <http://www.adaderana.lk/news/62486/slpp-ousts-thanamalwila-ps-member-who-allegedly-molested-a-teen>
- “දැරියක් අපයෝජනයේ සැකකාර තණමල්විල ප්‍රාදේශීය සභා මන්ත්‍රීගේ පොහොට්ටු සාමාජිකත්වය අහෝසි කරයි” (Party membership of a SLPP Provincial Council member in Thanamalwila terminated due to allegations of child abuse) - *Hiru News*, 10th April 2020 <https://bit.ly/2KqBFBh>
- “අවුරුදු 13ක දැරියක් අපයෝජනය කළ තණමල්විල ප්‍රා.මන්ත්‍රීගේ පක්ෂ සාමාජිකත්වය අත්හිටුවයි” (Party membership of the Pradeshiya Sabha member in Thanamalwila who abused a 13 year old girl has been terminated) *Divaina*, 11th April 2020 <https://divaina.com/daily/index.php/puwath-2/41197-2020-04-10-16-25-81>