

**DISTRIBUTION OF SOLAR LANTERNS AND SOLAR ENERGY KITS
FOR CHILDREN AND COMMUNITIES IN
TRINCO SOUTH, MUTTUR AND BIBILA**



DONOR: SOLAR EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE

REPORT ON THE PROJECT OF SOLAR EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE CARRIED OUT IN COLLABORATION WITH WORLD VISION LANKA

Solar Empowerment Initiative (SEI) partnered with World Vision Lanka (WVL) for the second time to distribute solar lanterns to the vulnerable communities who do not have access to electricity. For this purpose, 1,008 solar lanterns and 10 solar energy kits were shipped to Sri Lanka by SEI and WVL cleared all the items from Sri Lanka Ports Authority on the 29th November 2019.

After the distributions carried out in Paddipolai and Koralaipattu, the remaining were carried out in Trinco South, Muttur and Bibile Area Development Programmes (ADPs) during the month of January and February. A detailed distribution report is provided below.

DISTRIBUTION OF SOLAR LAMPS IN TRINCO SOUTH AND MUTTUR

Muttur Zonal Education Division (ZED) is one of the remote educational zones in the Eastern Province in terms of the educational infrastructures. The children under the Trinco South and Muttur ADPs fall under the Muttur ZED. A total of 88 schools with 1,752 children are included in this zone which also comprises of 81 children (43 boys 31 girls) who are under the special needs category. It is the practice in areas such as Muttur, for schools to conduct extra classes in the evening to bring in experienced teachers to supplement school education, as evening private classes are held in the towns which are far away. These classes are mainly meant for children who are sitting for scholarship exams - G.C.E. (O/L) and G.C.E (A/L) and those that need improvement in age-appropriate literacy levels.

Teachers in this vicinity are dedicated and work under immense challenges to provide the best for the children in these villages, as they too are highly motivated, committed, and enthusiastic. Even though the schools lack proper lighting facilities, evening classes continue to be held with the use of candles for lighting. Therefore, the distribution of solar lanterns to the schools and students is envisaged to have the following impact:

- Provide better lighting for students to carry out their evening classes
- Increase the time available for students to study during the evening/night hours
- Increase student motivation to attend classes
- Equip students to discontinue the dangerous usage of candles
- Assist schools that have some lighting facilities to decrease electricity consumption

DISTRIBUTION LIST – TRINCO SOUTH AND MUTTUR



Solar Lamps
Distribution List - Tri

A total of 392 solar lanterns were distributed in the Muttur ADP. A balance of 07 lanterns will be distributed within this week among disabled children who could not attend the initial distributions.

The 03 solar energy kits were distributed in the following locations;

1. Sri Shanpaha Vidyalayam – Trinco South
2. Divisional Education Office (DEO) – Trinco South
3. Pallikudirippu Vidyalayam – Muttur

The three solar energy kits were given to the schools to conduct evening/night group classes to a larger number of children. Furthermore, as most of the training sessions are conducted for the community are carried out through the DEO in their premise, the remaining solar energy kit was given to the DEO to carry out the training without any interruptions.

Several quotes from the beneficiaries are shown below:

“After receiving the solar lamps, we can participate in scholarship classes conducted during evening time. Thank you.” – P.Sugitha (Age 10), Thiruvaluvar Vidyalayam

“I would like to thank World Vision and the donors for providing the solar lamps for us.” – A.Abilashini (Age 07), Thiruvaluvar Vidyalayam

“I can now study with many friends. I am very happy to participate in evening literacy classes with my friends.” – K.Puviarchana (Age 09)

“The solar lanterns look nice and we are all excited to use them; we won’t be sad anymore if there are any power-cuts.” – S. Thusjanthan (Age 16)

“Now we feel that evening classes are special with the solar lanterns, we all are happy to receive the lanterns and now we do not need to use candles anymore.” – K. Vithujan (Age 15)

DISTRIBUTION OF SOLAR LAMPS IN BIBILE

Bibile Divisional Secretariat Division (DSD) is within the administrative district of Moneragala in the Uva province. The Bibile DSD area consists of 40 Grama Niladhari Divisions with a total of 112 villages with a total population of 45,334 (which includes 14,000 families). With the assistance of the DSD, Bibile ADP staff identified the most vulnerable communities in the area to distribute the solar lanterns and solar energy kits.

Currently, there are a few families who are living close to electricity lines, but are not in a position to obtain the electricity connections as they cannot afford to pay the monthly bills. Furthermore, most of these families live in mud houses or houses covered with polythene. Accordingly, the solar lanterns and the energy kits were donated to the most vulnerable communities in the region.

The distribution of 25 solar lanterns and 03 solar energy kits to the communities is envisaged to have the following impact:

- Enable the use of lamps by students to study at night
- Increase interest in studies and the ability of children to complete homework
- Minimize risk of fire and injury from using kerosene oil lamps
- Minimize risk of respiratory diseases caused by the smoke of kerosene oil lamps
- Decrease electricity consumption (in homes that have electricity)

DISTRIBUTION LIST - BIBILE



Solar Lamps
Distribution List - Bi

GALLERY

Few pictures taken during the distributions in Bibile;



Bebinona from Diyakolayaya said that it (solar energy kit) is a treasure for her big family as there are 3 school-going children in her family who will find it very helpful for their studies at night.



K M Anoma at Thotillaketiya (special needs child)

"This significantly reduces the risk of harming my child as she is unable to handle the kerosene oil lamp properly."



R. Sakunthala from Bibilawatta, is living in a temporary house covered with polythene. She's the breadwinner for the family. She works as a daily labourer at the tea estate and this solar lamp would be of great help to carry out their day-to-day activities during the night.



Few pictures taken during the distributions in Trinco South and Muttur ADPs:





- End of Report -