

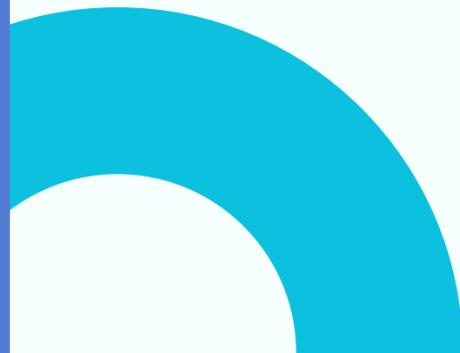
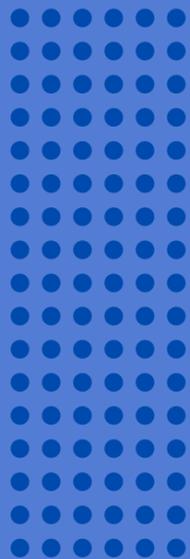
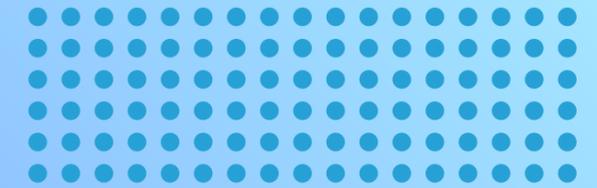


CYCLONE DITWAH

**Sri Lanka's 2025
Disaster**

Introduction

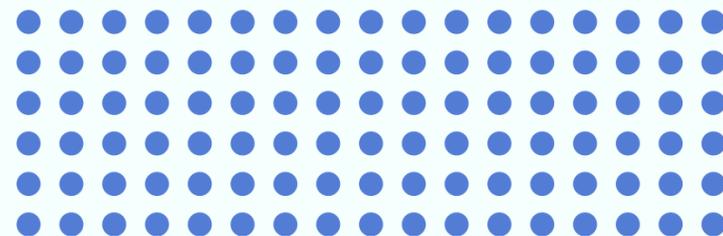
Last year, we all experienced a major disaster known as the Ditwah Cyclone. It was one of the most powerful storms our country had faced in a long time. When we look back over the past few years, we can see that we have faced many challenges, and we have overcome them all. Just as we did before, let us believe in ourselves, stay strong, and work together to overcome the impacts of the Ditwah Cyclone.



WHAT WAS DITWAH?

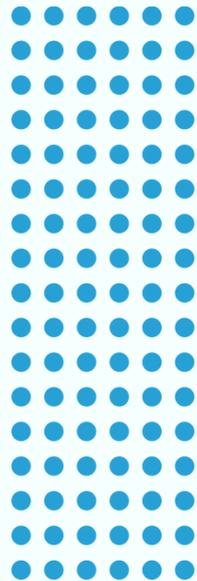
Cyclonic Storm Ditwah was a tropical cyclone that formed in the Bay of Bengal in late November 2025 and made landfall in Sri Lanka on 28 November 2025. It brought torrential rains, strong winds, floods, and deadly landslides across the island

The name “Ditwah” was assigned according to the regional cyclone naming system used by countries around the Indian Ocean.





TIME LINE OF EVENTS



Late November 2025

A low-pressure system has developed in the Bay of Bengal, prompting meteorological departments to start monitoring its progress.



26-27 November 2025

The system intensified into a cyclonic storm named Ditwah and Weather warnings were issued for Sri Lanka.



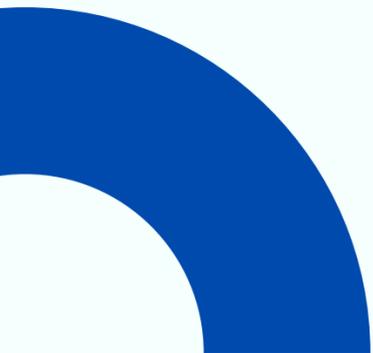
28 November 2025 (Landfall)

- Cyclone Ditwah affected Sri Lanka.
- Heavy rainfall, strong winds, and rough seas were recorded.

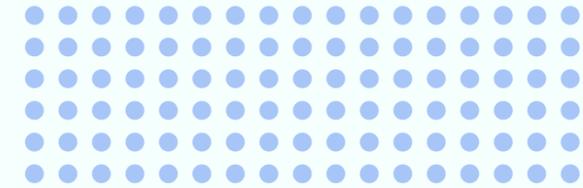
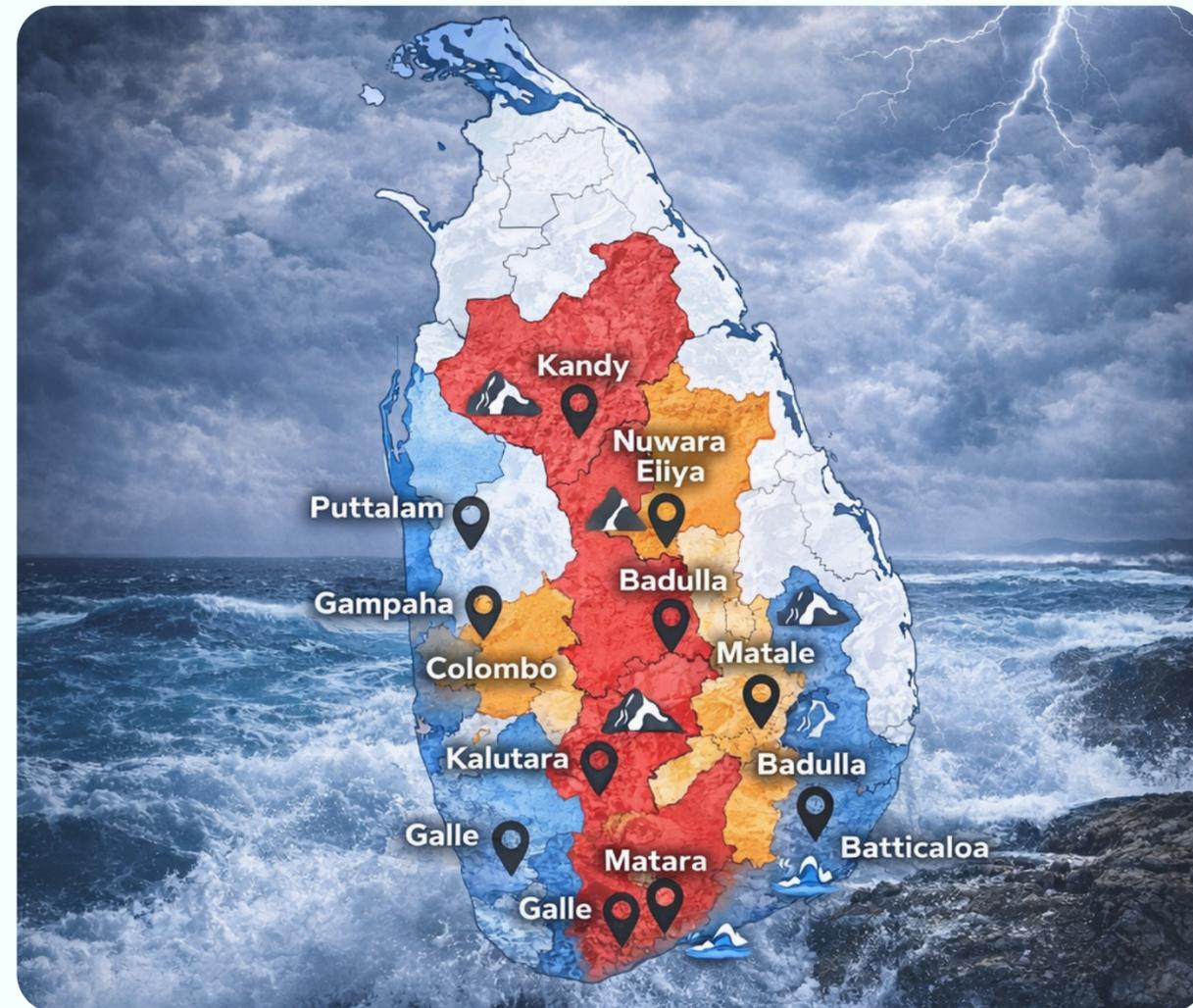


28 Nov - 2 Dec 2025

- Severe flooding and landslides occurred across the country.
- Thousands of people were displaced to safety centers.
- Major damage to homes, roads, and infrastructure.

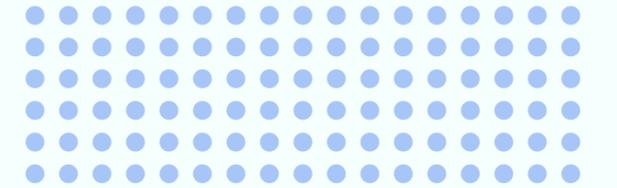


Areas Impacted



● Severely Affected Areas (Hot Zones)

- Kandy
- Nuwara Eliya
- Badulla
- Matale

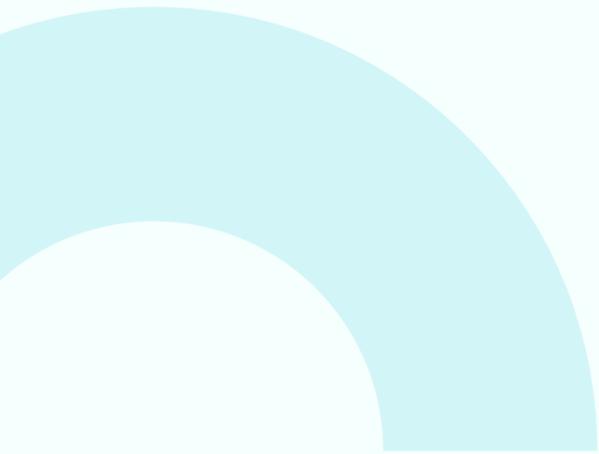


Southern & Eastern Areas

- Galle
- Matara
- Hambantota
- Batticaloa

Western & Low-Lying Areas

- Colombo
- Gampaha
- Kalutara
- Puttalam



Human Impact

Deaths & Missing



- Hundreds of deaths confirmed; official estimates range into the multiple hundreds.
- Hundreds still reported missing even after weeks of search operations.

Affected People

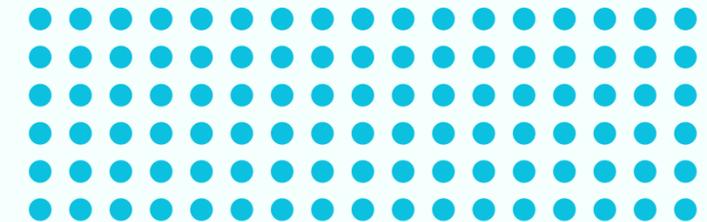


- Around 2.2 million people were affected.
- Hundreds of thousands displaced, living in safety centers and shelters across the country.

Homes & Shelter



- Tens of thousands of homes destroyed or damaged.
- Many families displaced into government-run safety centres.



Infrastructure & Economy Damage

Severe destruction of infrastructure

- Roads, bridges, and rail lines blocked or destroyed.
- National power grid suffered outages, and water systems were damaged in many areas.

Economic losses were huge

- The World Bank estimated ~US\$4.1 billion in direct damages (~4 % of GDP).
- Major costs to transport, utilities (power & water), agriculture, and residential structures.

Tourism Impact

- Although Sri Lanka was in peak tourist season, many services were disrupted.

Why Was Ditwah So Severe?

Heavy Rains



More than 200-300 mm of rainfall in many districts led to massive flooding

Landslides

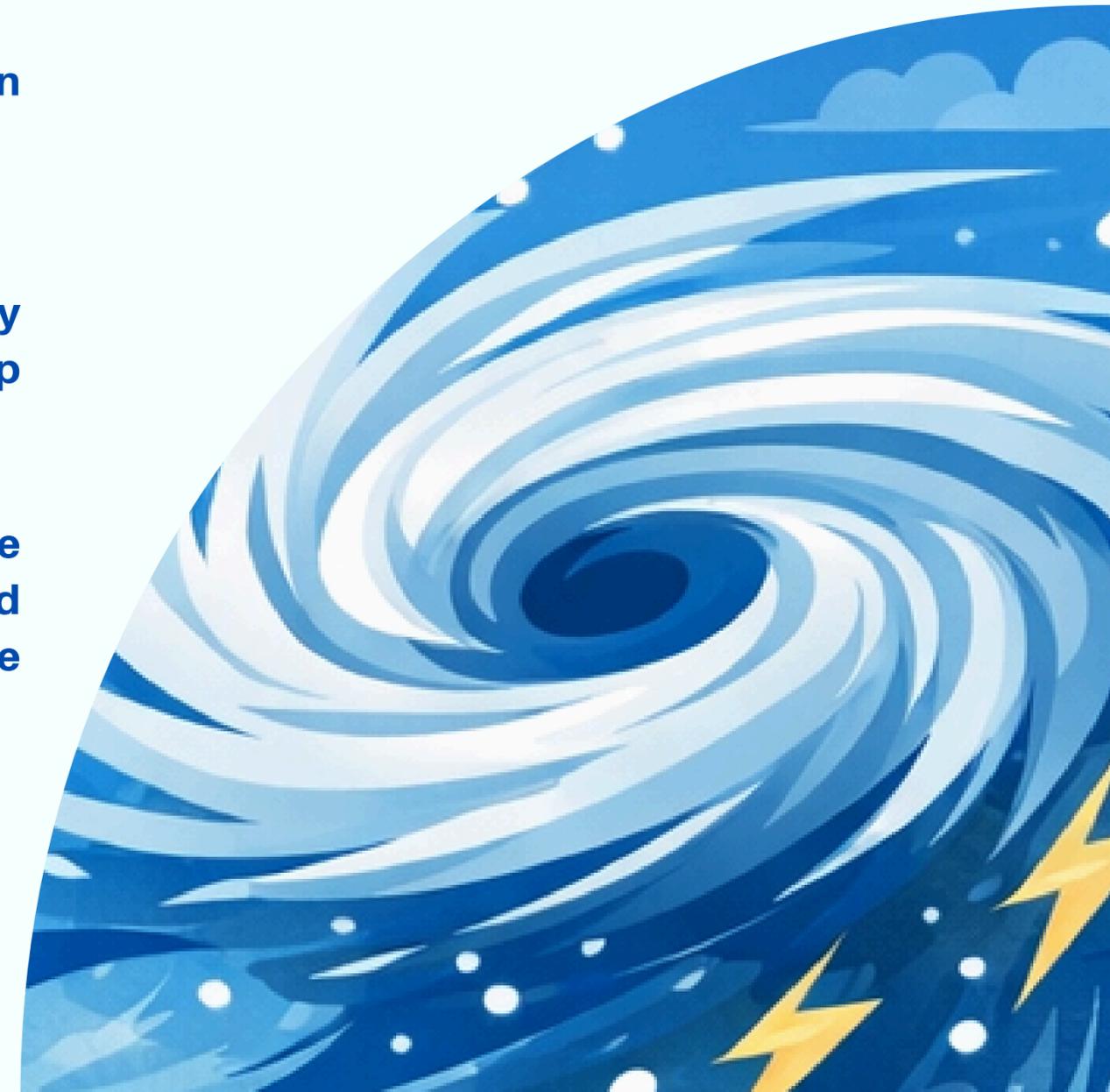
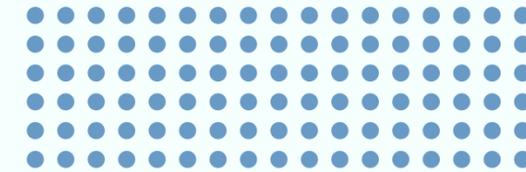


Hill country districts suffered deadly landslides due to saturated soil and steep terrain.

Winds & Storm Surge



While winds weren't as strong as some cyclones, combined with rain and topography, the impacts were catastrophic.

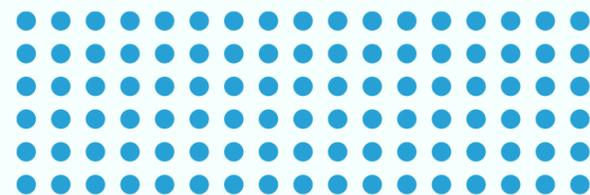
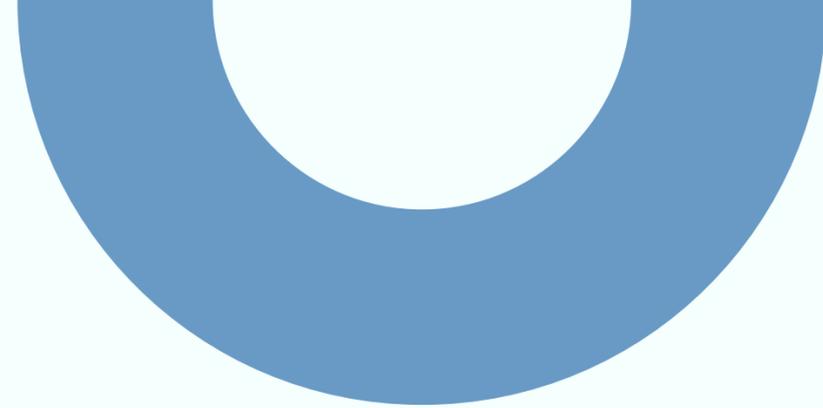




Government & International Response

- > **State of emergency declared.**
- > **Military & disaster relief teams deployed for search, rescue & access restoration.**
- > **International aid and coordination from agencies like UN, UNICEF, WHO.**
- > **Repairs to transport routes, bridges, and essential services underway.**





Conclusion

Cyclone Ditwah was a catastrophic storm that struck Sri Lanka on 28 November 2025 bringing torrential rain, floods, and deadly landslides. It severely affected millions of people, damaged infrastructure nationwide, displaced families, and caused billions of dollars in economic losses. The disaster mobilized national and international response efforts and highlighted the urgent need for climate resilience and disaster preparedness.

Thank you

