



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

September 2, 2021

The Honorable
Dina Titus
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Titus:

Thank you for your August 13 letter regarding the ongoing COVID-19 crisis in Sri Lanka. The continued and rapid spread of COVID-19 across Sri Lanka is tragic, and the Department of State will continue to work with other U.S. government agencies to deliver on our promise to stand with the people of Sri Lanka during this pandemic and beyond. We are in regular contact with the Government of Sri Lanka about its current needs and how the United States can assist.

The Department of State has helped coordinate U.S. donations of vaccines and other medical equipment to Sri Lanka throughout the duration of the pandemic. The United States donated 1.5 million Moderna doses via the COVAX Facility on July 14. In June, the United States airlifted 880,000 vital pieces of personal protective equipment and 1,200 pulse oximeters to support frontline healthcare workers and others most affected. In July, the United States delivered 500,000 rapid diagnostic tests valued at \$1.5 million to Sri Lanka. Total U.S. assistance related to supporting the Government of Sri Lanka's capacity to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic is valued at more than \$10 million, inclusive of an in-kind donation of ventilators.

The Department of State stands ready to support President Biden's commitment to share COVID-19 vaccines with the global community, including supporting the Administration's efforts to ship a half a billion U.S.-purchased Pfizer doses for donation through COVAX to 100 low and middle-income countries beginning this month.

We will continue to work with Congress, and coordinate our efforts through the U.S. interagency, and with civil society, and the private sector to provide needed support to Sri Lanka. We would be pleased to answer any additional questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Naz Durakoglu". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "N".

Naz Durakoglu
Acting Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Legislative Affairs