



Estate sector needs more income-generating avenues to keep children in school: IPS

19 November 2022 07:21 am 16 - 557

A A A



Source: Institute of Policy Studies

- **Calls on govt. to implement 'special programmes' to increase income sources of adults in deprived regions**
- **Facilitate continuation of school meal programme**
- **Help estate children to recover lost learning from pandemic closures by rolling out special 'catch-up programmes'**

In an effort to prevent the children of the estate sector from falling deeper into the socio-economic crisis faced, the relevant authorities must look at introducing new programmes that expand the earning capacity of adults, so that the school-going age group is kept away from seeking employment, the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) said.

A study carried out by the economic think tank called for the implementation of 'special programmes' to increase the income sources of the adults in deprived regions, which would be beneficial in discouraging their children from engaging in economic activities while encouraging them to attend school.

Research studies that focus on the plight of estate sector children highlight that there is a rise in the number of children dropping out of school in the estate regions.

A sector-wise comparison of school dropouts prior to the COVID-19 outbreak reveals the estate sector to have the highest percentage of dropouts in all three levels of education – primary, secondary and collegiate. The percentage rises as the level of education advances from the primary to collegiate level. Approximately 4 percent of primary, 20 percent of secondary and 26 percent of collegiate students had dropped out of school in the estate sector.

In contrast, the corresponding rates in urban and rural sectors are much lower, reflecting the disparity across sectors.

Worsened financial difficulties faced by the estate children after the pandemic are cited as the main reason for the increasing school drop-out level. The ongoing economic crisis in the country has added to their woes, as they are pushed to engage in economic activities to earn income, so that they can afford their basic needs, the IPS said. While providing the adult population of the estate sector with more income-generating avenues will help improve the situation, the study stated that facilitating the continuation of the school meal programme (free meal), by prioritising the highly deprived children in plantation communities, would be another possible solution to reduce child labour.

“It will help reduce school dropouts in the estate sector since many estate children, who struggle to afford a meal, are influenced to engage in economic activities to earn income, the IPS said. Furthermore, implementing special ‘catch-up programmes’ in estate regions for students who could not attend online classes during school closures would help recover the lost learning of these students and reduce the risk of them dropping out of school. While Sri Lanka is committed to attaining the goal of zero child labour by 2025, as set in the Sustainable Development Goals agenda, eliminating child labour would solve this issue of school dropouts to a certain extent. However, ever since the COVID-19 pandemic emerged, along with the ongoing economic crisis in the country, this goal of eliminating child labour by 2025 has become even more challenging. Evidence suggests that the number of children engaging in economic activities has increased significantly in these estate regions after the pandemic that led to prolonged school closures.

Comments - 16

[Maria](#) Saturday, 19 November 2022 07:50 AM

This is just a news only. Nothing has been happening for decades.

Reply

[Jude](#) Saturday, 19 November 2022 08:50 AM

Hey IPS ask CWC to step up and take Care of the estate workers!! And same goes for Mano ganeshan yeah mano walk the walk talk the talk!! Huh!!

Reply

[Jude](#) Saturday, 19 November 2022 08:58 AM

CWC responsible for sad state of estate workers and their families!! Just to give you an idea, where the estate dwellings requires 100 toilets CWC build only 10 toilets!! CWC wants strangle hold of estate workers as CWC fear if they fullfil most of estate workers aspirations then the possibility is there they'll give more power to Mano, yeah!!

Reply



[Gahamu saddata](#) Sunday, 20 November 2022 08:02 AM

Mano and Thondaman are useless for their voters. If Estate worker vote for large main stream party like SLPP and get MP in from big party they will get more voice. But Estate worker are always languishing voting for minority party.

[VIEW MORE COMMENTS](#)

You May Also Like

Sponsored Content



22 November 2022 - 11:05 pm

Asian business communities eager to bolster cooperation with China in economy



14 October 2022 - 08:15 pm

Friendship Across Mountains and Sea: Celebrations of the 50th Anniversary of



25 October 2022 - 08:26 am

Plan your next vacation with these top 5 luxury villas in Sri Lanka



14 October 2022 - 07:42 pm

Friendship Across Mountains and Sea: Celebrations of the 50th Anniversary of

<>

RECOMMENDED



President Ranil's initiative to resolve Tamil national question



"I think that Sri Lanka is far enough out of the economic crisis" - Jennifer Jones Rotary, International President



More bitter truths surface regarding sugar scam

Most Viewed in News

1 **Schaffter's business partners questioned; no suspect yet**



4 **Dinesh Schaffter's probe takes a new turn**



2 **State employees in SL behave like kings - Korean official**



5 **President's advisor caught in a storm for allegedly sexually abusing pet dog**



3 **Monday declared a special public holiday**



6 **GR and wife leave for USA**





Now catch Sri Lanka's
24/7 breaking news platform
exclusively on Viber

DailyMirror

TODAY'S HEADLINES

Dinesh Schaffter's probe takes a new turn

27 Dec 2022

Decision not to indict over Sri Lankan detainees death in Japan is unjust: panel

27 Dec 2022

Russian charter air line "Red Wings" to start charter flights to SL

27 Dec 2022

Companies with 15 workers and over must make ETF remittances online from Feb. 1: Fin. State Minister

27 Dec 2022

MIRROR CRICKET

Shanaka undergoes finger surgery.

19 Dec 2022

🗨 - 1 📶 - 982



Comfortable win for Jaffna Kings

19 Dec 2022

🗨 - 0 📶 - 291



Bopara takes Stars across the line after Chandimal, Asalanka set Colombo up for win

14 Dec 2022

🗨 - 0 📶 - 431



Hasaranga takes first ever LPL hat-trick, Kandy make winning start

07 Dec 2022

🗨 - 0 📶 - 593



Sports Headlines



Asia Rugby imposes SLR with USD 10,000 fine

22 Dec 2022



Nirekh and Reshan win Gold and Silver segments

21 Dec 2022



Shanaka undergoes finger surgery.

19 Dec 2022



Messi says he will not retire from Argentinian national team

More

[HOME](#) [HOME DELIVERY](#) [WNL HOME](#) [ARCHIVES](#) [FEEDBACK](#) [ADVERTISING](#)

All the content on this website is copyright protected and can be reproduced only by giving the due courtesy to 'dailymirror.lk' Copyright © 2004 Wijeya Newspapers Ltd.