

Table 2: Timeline of COVID-19 of Sri Lanka – Key measures for COVID-19 Containment and Management of Food Supply Chains

Date	Key Measures Taken to Contain COVID-19	Key Measures Taken to Manage the Food Supply Chains
March 12-14	Governments schools, all pre-schools, all universities were closed until further notice	
March 15	All passengers from 11 countries will be quarantined upon arrival.	
March 16	Self-quarantine mandatory for those who arrived to Sri Lanka during March 1-9.	A relief package to support people affected by COVID-19, maximum retail prices for red lentil and canned implemented through State Retail Chain (<i>Lak Sathosa</i>).
March 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Operation Centre for Prevention of COVID-19 Outbreak • All aircrafts to the island were banned. 	
March 19		Facilitation of importation of non-essential goods was restricted
March 20	Island-wide curfew was imposed.	
March 23		Sri Lanka Ports, Customs and other regulatory bodies were requested to continually issue essential food, fertilizer, etc.
March 24		Instructions issued to refrain from closing down stores until the last customer in the queue is able to purchase goods.
March 25		A special mechanism has been established to deliver essential food items to homes in collaboration with cooperatives and retailers.
March 26		Presidential Task Force entrusted to provide services, especially food through a proper coordination mechanism (i) to import essential dry food items, and medicine and to export goods such as tea and sanitary apparel and implement decisions, (ii) to facilitate farmers for the production of rice, grams, vegetables, fish, dairy and egg and crops including tea, cinnamon and pepper, (iii) to give particular attention to women, low income families and vulnerable persons, and (iv) to distribute rice, vegetables and products to the people of all districts to strengthen the farmer and the local economy.
April 2		Declaration on restrictions on importation of non-essential goods
April 4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sri Lanka's Colombo tea auction conducted online • The "<i>Saubhagya</i> National Programme On Harvesting and Cultivation" which aims to develop 1 million home gardens was launched
April 9		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sri Lanka's coconut auction will take place via a video conference for the first time. • The Government allocated LKR. 600 million for the early purchase of the fish harvest
April 10		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRP imposed for selected rice varieties • The services of rice mill owners declared as an essential service • The special commodity levy on palm oil will be increased
April 11 & 14		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The government procures vegetables and fruit stocks from farmers

April 16		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary suspensions on imports of certain agricultural items were imposed
April 17		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A concessionary loan scheme for farmers has been launched
April 20	Relaxing island-wide curfew in low risk areas	
April 21		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRP on turmeric powder was imposed
April 23		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guaranteed prices on 14 crops and government is to procure the harvest if farmers are unable to sell at guaranteed prices
April 30		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further restrictions were imposed on importation of agricultural items
May 01-03	Island-wide curfew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRP imposed on red-lentils, canned fish and sugar were removed. MRP on milk powder was increased.
May 11	Resumption of civilian life has been declared	