

## **Analysis of Estate Sector Household Food Security during Economic Crisis 2022 in Sri Lanka**

**Nanthagopan J. and Prasada D.V.P.\***

Department of Agricultural Economics and Business Management,  
Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

The economic crisis in Sri Lanka creates severe impacts on estate sector food security. This study attempts to estimate the food consumption changes, identify the determinants of food insecurity dimensions, especially the shock factors related to consumption and status of the household food security. The study was carried out with 100 households, selected using stratified random sampling, at the *Kataboola* estate in *Nawalapitya*. Data collection involved interviews using a structured questionnaire. According to the results, households reduced the quantity of wheat (58.7 percent), chicken (70.8 percent), egg (54.8 percent), fish (57.9 percent) and milk powder (73.3 percent) during the crisis episode. Further analysis by multiple linear regression identified the relationship between food insecurity dimensions with the socio- economic factors and shock factors. Food unavailability was negatively impacted by total household income and protein availability shock. Lack of access was also associated with income negatively but positively related with number of household members, number of *Samurdhi* beneficiaries and transport expenditure. Food underutilization was positively impacted by medical expenditure but negatively related to total household income and the number of sick members. The food instability is positively impacted by total number of members and negatively impacted by total household income. The results also displayed that about 56 percent of the households are at the moderate food secure level and 42 percent of the households are in an 'urgent-action-required' situation. Households increased their food expenditure, but this was not sufficient to compensate for the effects of price inflation. This study provides insights which will have important policy implications on the development interventions in the estate sector.

**Keywords:** Economic crisis, Estate sector, Food security, Regression analysis

---

\*prasada@agri.pdn.ac.lk