

Sufficient stocks of food in Jaffna- GA. (1993, November 29). *The Island*.

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COLOMBO — The Government Agent, Jaffna has informed the Commissioner of Essential Services that there were sufficient stocks of food stored in the warehouses in Jaffna to meet the requirements of the people in the northern peninsula till next year, and that there was no shortage of food in Jaffna.

Official sources said that the Government Agent Jaffna had reported that there were 8158 metric tons of rice, 3400 metric tons flour, 1800 m.t. sugar, 111 m.t. masoor dhal, 28 m.t. of green gram, ulundu, garlic and other cereals, 20 m.t. tea, and adequate stocks of canned fish, milk powder etc.

These sources said that 4500 barrels of kerosene were being distributed in Jaffna through

the Multi-Purpose Cooperatives and loading of shipment of 4500 more barrels of kerosene would commence Monday on board a freighter berthed in Colombo Harbour which would reach Jaffna well in time for Christmas.

Shipment of goods to Jaffna are at present being hampered by the current monsoonal bad weather which makes hazardous, the discharging of cargo in the small port of Point Pedro on the north eastern coast of Jaffna where unloading has to be done manually from mid stream.

The Municipal Commissioner, Jaffna has also been issued with sufficient stocks of kerosene, for street lamps which were now lit on the streets of Jaffna at night.

Official sources said that 500 bicycles had also reached Jaffna by ship from Colombo and Jaffna traders were now free to purchase their goods in Colombo and have them shipped without any restrictions, except for goods which were banned as they were being used by the LTTE to manufacture weapons such as land and Johnny mines which have accounted for 70 percent of the Sri Lanka security forces battlefield casualties.

In addition to this, 400 m.t. of non-urea based fertiliser had also been shipped on board MV Ruhuna for use by Jaffna farmers for the Maha Season rice crop.

There were ample stocks of onions, vegetables and chillies grown in Jaffna itself, these sources said.