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**At least 207 die in Sri Lanka blasts – 23rd April, 2019**

**NOTE: At the time of upload, the death toll was 310.**

## **Level 0**

Over 207 people died in suicide bombings in Sri Lanka. Bombers attacked three churches. They had religious services for Easter, one of the biggest events in the Christian calendar. Three luxury hotels were also hit. People must report anything suspicious. Police have arrested seven people.

Pope Francis said: "I pray for the injured and all those who are suffering." The Catholic Church said it never thought such a thing would happen on Easter Sunday. The USA said it is ready to help "the great people of Sri Lanka". Turkey said the bombs were attacks "on all of humanity". Sri Lanka is unstable at the moment.

## **Level 1**

Over 207 people died in suicide bombings in Sri Lanka. There were eight bombs in churches and hotels. Bombers attacked three churches where there were religious services for Easter, one of the biggest events in the Christian calendar. Three luxury hotels were also hit. There is now a curfew in the country. People must be alert and report anything suspicious. The government has blocked social media sites. Police have arrested seven suspects.

World leaders spoke about the attacks. Pope Francis said: "I pray for the injured and all those who are suffering." The Catholic Church said it was a sad situation. It said: "We never expected such a thing to happen...on Easter Sunday." Donald Trump said the USA is ready to help "the great people of Sri Lanka". Turkey said the bombs were "an assault on all of humanity". Sri Lanka's president is worried the violence could lead to instability in his country.

## **Level 2**

At least 207 people died in explosions in Sri Lanka. Suicide bombers were responsible for the bombings. The blasts were in churches and hotels across the country. Bombers attacked three churches where people were attending religious services for Easter, one of the biggest events in the Christian calendar. Three luxury hotels were also hit. Sri Lanka has imposed a curfew on the country. People must be alert and report anything suspicious. The government has blocked social media sites to stop the spread of misinformation. Police have arrested seven suspects.

World leaders condemned the attacks. Pope Francis said: "I pray for the injured and all those who are suffering [in] this dramatic event." The Catholic Church in Sri Lanka said: "It's a very difficult and a very sad situation for all of us. We never expected such a thing to happen...on Easter Sunday." Donald Trump tweeted: "The U.S. offers heartfelt condolences to the great people of Sri Lanka. We [are] ready to help." Turkey called the blasts "an assault on all of humanity". Sri Lanka's president is worried that the violence could create instability in his country.

## **Level 3**

At least 207 people have been killed and 450 hurt in separate explosions in Sri Lanka. The government said suicide bombers were responsible for the bombings. The blasts took place in churches and hotels across the country on Sunday. Three churches were attacked as people were attending religious services for Easter, one of the most important occasions in the Christian calendar. Three luxury hotels were also targeted. Sri Lanka's government has imposed a curfew on the country. It asked people to be alert and report anything suspicious. The government has also blocked social media websites to prevent the spread of misinformation. The government said police have arrested seven suspects.

World leaders have condemned the attacks. Pope Francis said: "I pray for the injured and all those who are suffering as a result of this dramatic event." The leader of the Catholic Church in Sri Lanka told the BBC: "It's a very difficult and a very sad situation for all of us because we never expected such a thing to happen, especially on Easter Sunday." US President Donald Trump tweeted: "The United States offers heartfelt condolences to the great people of Sri Lanka. We stand ready to help." The president of Turkey called the blasts "an assault on all of humanity". Sri Lanka's president said he is worried that the violence could create more instability in his country and in its economy.

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