

Liberated areas in East swing back to life

Reconstruction in progress



Road Development Authority men busy at Vakarai.

Reconstruction and resettlement activities were being carried out at an accelerated pace in the areas recently liberated by the security forces from the LTTE in the east.

Our staff photographer **Tilak Perera** captured three photographs of civilians who had undergone severe hardships under the LTTE.

Roads are being reconstructed with pylons and pillars being erected to supply electricity in the liberated areas such as Vakarai, Panichhenkerni, Kathiraveli, Verugal, Mankerni, Seruvila and Thoppur.

Army engineers were also busy rebuilding the bridges destroyed by the retreating LTTE cadres. Several makeshift bridges have been constructed to provide transport facilities to the liberated areas.

In most areas schools have reopened with the return of a large number of civilians from the centres for the Internally Displaced. Agricultural activities have also resumed in the liberated areas with the smooth flow of water from the sluice gates of Mavillaru which the security forces took control from the LTTE, a few months ago.

-APK



Displaced civilians returning to start a new life.



Paddy harvesting in progress at Seruvila without any hindrance.



Schools re-opened with good attendance of students at Thoppur.



Mavil Aru waters now flow smoothly. Soldiers keep vigil above a bunt close to the sluice gates.



Another bridge destroyed by the retreating LTTE cadres is being re-constructed by Army engineers.



A makeshift bridge built by the Army engineers at Vakarai.



Lamp posts and pylons to restore electricity.



An Army tractor travels through a ferry-put back in operation by Army personnel.