

Vakarai awakening gradually

The guns were silenced in the East after the Security Forces recaptured Vakarai from the clutches of the LTTE Tigers, and the Government's rehabilitation and development drive has got off the ground without much fan-fare to provide public amenities to enable the residents to return to normal life. After a tour in the East, this picture essay provided to the Sunday Observer by ANCL Photographer Dushmantha Mayadunne.

(Clockwise from top left)

Business is gradually improving at Mandur Village fair

Certain NGOs, in the guise of providing relief to civilians, spent millions of dollars only to provide purified water to Tiger bases including the Sornam Base in Verugal.

Under *Mahinda Chintana*, a new ward complex is under construction at the Vellavali Hospital.

Banks are open and here customers wait for the gates to open.

A fleet of vehicles used by the Tigers now lay idle at Vakarai.

Over 11 buses provided by the Government to streamline the transport in the area Kadiraweli.

Rice and other cereals sent by the Government to feed civilians were robbed by the Tigers and have been used to construct bunkers.