



Soldiers providing first aid to an old woman



Enjoying a hearty meal after days...



Hoping for a bright future



The long trek...

After the long march to freedom

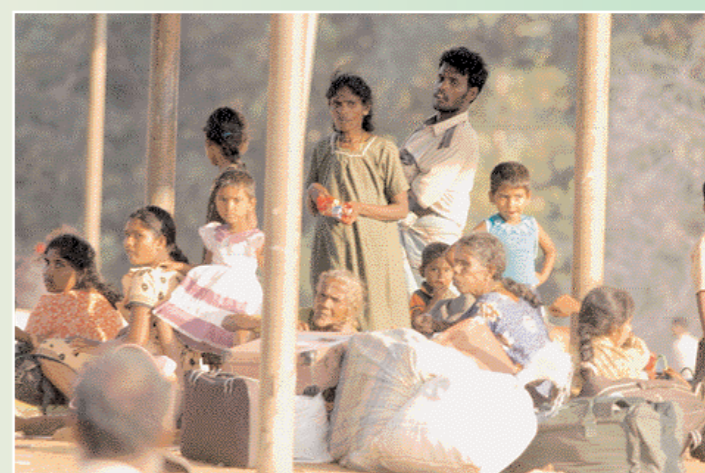
Thousands of civilians trapped under LTTE custody have managed to make a breakthrough. The scenes were captured by our staff photographer **Thilak Perera** at Visuamadu, after a LTTE human bomb had exploded at the Piramantharu Maha Vidyalayam. The civilians, dehydrated, sick and the wounded were given food, water and medical treatment by the soldiers by the 58 Division before they were taken to the IDP centres in Vavuniya.



...and a rest



At last, access to safe drinking water



With their bag and baggage



Waiting for the turn...



Sweet smell of freedom



A brief moment to pet the child



Toddlers subjected to checks, especially after the suicide bomb explosion

