

New chapter in Eastern Resurgence

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At the recently concluded UPFA May Day rally in Dehiattakandiya, President Mahinda Rajapaksa predicted that the East would soon become the fastest developing Province under the "Eastern Reawakening" programme.

That in itself was a clear indication of the Government's commitment in continuing with the emancipation of a population that had undergone huge deprivation and misery during the long drawn out conflict spanning over two decades.

The East which opens a new chapter following the eviction of the LTTE, houses all the necessary ingredients for such a development revolution, with the enormous resources it possesses.

Geographically the Eastern Province has the longest coastline of any province. This is naturally, connected to the unlimited oceanic resources, minerals and marine, including the biggest natural harbour in Trincomalee.

The other advantage of the Eastern Province is the easy access it has to the rest of the country through a variety of lines of communications. In addition, it also possess an abundance of agricultural and forest resources. Extensive paddy cultivation in the Ampara, Trincomalee and Batticaloa districts contribute over 50 per cent rice requirements of the whole country.

It is also home to all three major communities in substantial proportions which makes the East, a unique landscape on the Sri Lankan map. Thus it is no doubt that the East would achieve great heights in the near future. These pictures tell a story to this effect, but it is still only the tip of the iceberg.



Road under construction in Padiyatalawa, Ampara



Foundation stone for the new Kalladi bridge



Co-op city in Ampara



New milk collecting centres in Batticaloa



Brisk vegetable sales



Paddy processing centres in the East



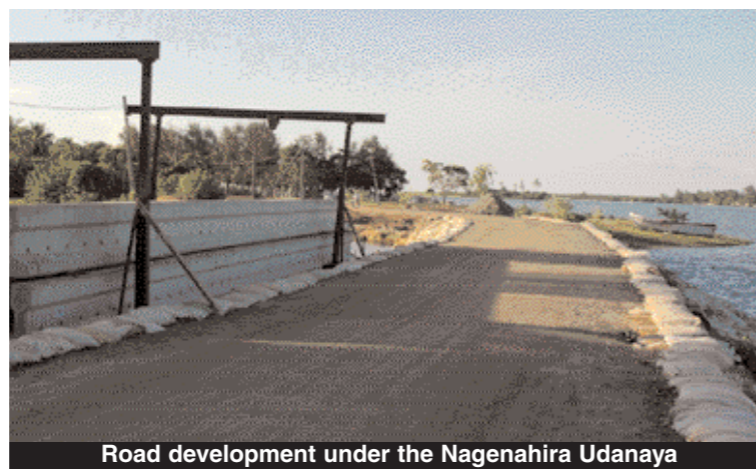
Boost for the fishing industry



Road development in progress



Bridges like this are development projects undertaken by the Government



Road development under the Nagenahira Udanaya



The Trincomalee Circular Road

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New houses for the displaced in Batticaloa