

Daily News GALLERY



The world as seen by children

in the civilian welfare villages

Peace is a big word to little Thangavelu in that remote area off Vanni. His father died years ago. He has no idea where his mother is now. Perhaps beaten to death because she did not let them take him away. He could not stay with mother, he had to escape the fate of being another recruit. He did not want anything. He wanted space for himself and he took to painting.

Social Services Deputy Minister Lionel Premasiri recently made an Avurudu visit on April 9 to see Thangavelu's playmates at welfare villages in Vavuniya. They showed what they had painted in their own way. Some have drawn flags. Some have drawn our island, while others have drawn Uncles in the Forces they have recently made friends with. Thangavelu and his little friends had one thing to say in their pictures: Live under one flag in one country. And they expressed it in their own language.

Deputy Minister Premasiri's convoy distributed school supplies, household items, dry rations, new clothes and mattresses. - Sachitra

