

FROM THE EDITOR

Triumph in the war against terrorism, professed as unattainable by many, was secured by Sri Lanka, two years ago. However, the physical scars left in the most affected parts of the country by a thirty year long subjugation to terrorism would need more time and effort in the future to heal. Highest in the list for rehabilitation are the destroyed or neglected infrastructure facilities in these areas of north and east of the island. Reinstating the transport infrastructure of road and railway networks are the most important and critical tasks faced by the government, to bring in normalcy and security to the long suffering people of these regions.

It goes without saying that this endeavour rests solely in the active realms of Engineers. Through the state engineering organizations of the country, Engineers have taken up this challenge, achieving milestones at a steady rate. During the past couple of years, the road network in the north and east have improved substantially though adverse weather conditions resulting in record floods have created havoc in these areas during the past year. Not merely being content with rehabilitation of the infrastructure, our Engineers have gone a step ahead to install improved versions of the same.

The Sanguppidy bridge on the Navathkuli-Karethivu-Mannar (A32) road is a good example of this trend. Earlier the continuation of this road over the Jaffna lagoon was via a ferry, now upgraded to a 288 m long two lane bridge. Throughout the areas for rehabilitation, as well as the other parts of the country, Engineers are spearheading many such projects silently. While their commitment and hard work is beyond question, populace of the country do not get to know of the achievements of these Engineers as they are realized. Though modesty is a virtue to be admired, wouldn't Engineers be doing the people of the country a favour by letting them know about their accomplishments?

Eng. (Prof.) T. M. Pallewatta, Int. PEng (SL), C. Eng, FIE(SL), FIAE(SL)
Editor, 'ENGINEER', Journal of The Institution of Engineers.