rward to a resolving of the secessionist activities in the Northern and Eastern Provinces

Sadly, this has not happened. In fact, the attempts for a negotiated settlement appear to have been confounded. But we don't give up hope.

It is encouraging that even though there is no settlement of the conflict in the North, we have been able to establish rehabilitation programs in four villages in the Jaffna district. By God's Grace, we hope to re-establish Child Centred Community Development sponsored projects in these areas.

One outcome of the continuing conflict is the growing number of men, women and children who lose limbs as a result o treading on land mines in the conflict areas.

Our work in Relief, Rehabilitation and Development is becoming more focussed on the disabled and the war widows. They are remarkably motivated to overcome their disabilities, to provide for their families and meet their personal objectives.

In addition to the above, World Vision Lanka responded to four major natural disaster situations, three of which were flood related and one caused by extra-ordinary coastal gales. Two of the flood relief responses were in the sponsorship projects of 'Esther' and 'Saul'. Your support enabled us to meet the needs of 1059 families in these two villages. In the third flood relief programme 700 families were helped, and 580 families were provided for in the coastal gale disaster.

Sri Lanka is rated third highest after Thailand and Philippines as a target area for child prostitution and child pornography.

Some good news is that the Charter for Rights of the Children in Sri Lanka has been enacted and given 'teeth'. This is a welcome encouragement to all of us who combat child abuse.

We continue to monitor the AIDS situation. The latest estimate is that there are 118 identified HIV positive persons in our country. It is also estimated that for every "HIV Positive" case, 110 more are presumed to be affected. We ensure that there is an AIDS Education program in every World Vision sponsorship community.

All the children in each sponsored community project are given a medical check-up every year.

In 1991, of seven Asian countries, Sri Lanka was rated as the highest in child survival, nutrition, primary education, family planning and women in development.

As a result of World Vision sponsorship programs in rural communities, the number of young people reaching Ordinary Level and Advanced Level standards is increasing accordingly. We are therefore enhancing and expanding training programs for employment and in Small Enterprise Development.

We are also encouraging the forming and training of children's committees as part of the leadership development component in our sponsorship communities. This is proving to be most effective in helping the children prepare for future leadership roles in their villages. It is an important contribution to the "sustainability" of the development of the Community.

There are now 108 World Vision funded sponsorship projects providing for 22,970 children and their families - a total of 86,835 beneficiaries.

In 1993 we mourned the deaths of 14 precious sponsored children. (None were war related).

We were delighted to welcome 21 sponsors in the past year - 15 of whom came from Australia. Our staff, the project communities and families are very much aware of the personal sacrifices made by many sponsors in meeting their commitment to their sponsored children.

Our sponsors need to be encouraged by the results of their concern and support for the children and their families.

We thank God for you and pray that you will be blessed even as you have been a blessing to others.

Sincerely,

Peter Berry
DIRECTOR - WORLD VISION LANKA.