

Terrorism in the guise of liberation-22

▶ Although the LTTE had been defeated militarily after the 2006-2009 humanitarian operation which rescued over half a million people, the possibility of their overseas cadres regrouping in the future cannot be ruled out.

▶ That is exactly why the defence authorities continue to keep vigil to ensure that Sri Lanka's hard-earned peace is preserved for the future generations as well. It was encouraging to hear President Mahinda Rajapaksa's bold statement that he would not allow anyone to rob that hard-earned peace that had been achieved by the Security Forces.

▶ Though certain Western countries now try to advocate to us on the positioning of Sri Lanka's military camps and shifting of High Security Zones, it is none other than the country's Commander-in-Chief and the Defence Minister that takes maximum care and worries most on the security of the people of Sri Lanka.

▶ Hence, external forces need not worry about internal matters and the security aspects of Sri Lanka as they were never there when Sri Lanka needed their support the most. Except for a few friendly countries, many Western countries danced to the tune of the LTTE. The LTTE rump is now working round the clock, lobbying politicians and state officials of Western countries so that they could exert pressure on Sri Lanka at the next UNHRC Sessions.

▶ In the guise of the so-called liberation to Tamils, LTTE terrorists inflicted untold misery on hundreds of thousands of innocent civilians, including their own community. It is still fresh in people's memories how the LTTE terrorists carried out some of the most brutal bomb attacks during this period in previous months.

▶ This is the 22nd in a series of graphic stories by the Sunday Observer on the anniversaries of those indiscriminate and inhuman attacks.

▶ **June 26, 1985:** Principal of St. John's College, Jaffna, C.E. Anandarajah was shot dead in Jaffna. LTTE claimed responsibility, saying that he was killed for organising a cricket match between students and the Security Forces.

▶ **June 25, 1986:** A bomb explosion carried out by the LTTE killed 16 Sinhalese in Sittaru, Kantale.

▶ **June 22, 1991:** A group of LTTE terrorists attacked Weligahakandiya village in Periyapullumalai, Ampara and by using swords, axes and machetes chopped 20 civilians including women and children to death.



▶ **June 27, 2002:** Two civilians H.M.Kaleel Rajman (22) and P.M. Ajwath (25), returning to Valaichenai, were abducted in Kiran by an LTTE party under Jim Kelly Thattaa. The duo were later killed by the Tigers.

▶ **June 27, 2002:** Three Muslim fishermen - N.M.Abusally (35), H.M.Mohamed Usan (44) and M.A. Hyath Mohamed (42) who went fishing in Vahaneri reservoir were abducted and later killed by the LTTE.

▶ **June 28, 2002:** Several Muslim devotees were killed when LTTE opened fire and threw grenades at worshippers at Oddaimavady Mosque.

▶ **June 28, 2004:** LTTE pistol group shot dead an ex-PLOTE member at Pattakulam in Vavuniya. K. Devaraja (49), the father of two children. While riding home on a bicycle, the two gunmen shot the victim, killing him on the spot.

▶ **June 25, 2006:** A member of a political party that opposes the LTTE terrorists was shot dead in Jaffna. An official of People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE) Jeinulabdeen Mohammad Basheer, 46, was shot dead by two gunmen on a bicycle.

▶ **June 26, 2006:** A suicide bomber killed SL Army's Deputy Chief of Staff, Major General Parami Kulathunge, the third highest ranking officer in the SLA, and three others at Pannipitiya. Eight persons are wounded in the explosion.

▶ **June 26, 2007:** A major disaster was averted due to public vigilance on suspicious elements as Police detected a 20kg claymore mine transported from Kilinochchi and hidden in a backyard at Obeysekarapura, Rajagiriya. The bomb was found inside the petrol tank of the double cab EP GX - 8886.

▶ **June 29, 2007:** Four civilians including two schoolchildren sustained injuries as Tiger terrorists detonated a claymore mine

targeting a crowded civilian bus plying from Chettikulam to Vavuniya. The rear of the bus carrying more than 60 passengers, most schoolchildren, was completely destroyed in the attack at Cheddikulam.

▶ **June 29, 2008:** Divisional Secretary of Thunukkai in Mullativu District, N. Nanthakumar was killed in a claymore bomb attack in Mullativu.

▶ We salute Sri Lanka's Security Forces for providing a safer today for all communities to live in peace and harmony.

GRAPHIC BY MAHIL WIJESINGHE



▶ **June 27, 1991:** LTTE exploded a private bus - 60-976, proceeding from Monaragala to Pottuvil by using two claymore mines and then opened fire at the passengers, killing 16 civilians and injuring eight others in Lahugala, Ampara.

▶ **June 24, 1998:** SLFP Secretary of Gurunagar, S. A. Oswald was shot dead by LTTE terrorists in Gurunagar, Jaffna.

▶ **June 26, 2000:** MV Uhana, a ship carrying private cargo to Point Pedro from Trincomalee was attacked by a ring of LTTE suicide boats and the vessel was later sunk by explosion. Out of 28 members of the civil crew on board the ship, 23 were rescued. Eight people, including three Navy officers died in the incident.

▶ **June 27, 2002:** Two brothers, Hyath Mohamed Januudeen (26) and Hyath Mohamed Janushdeen (20) were abducted and killed by the LTTE from a Tamil wedding ceremony in Petthalai, Valaichenai where they had been invited to cook.