Terrorism in the guise of liberation - 25



The agenda of the West is crystal clear. For most countries in the West, it seems that there are two types of terrorism – one applicable to their part of the world and another to countries such as Sri Lanka.

Terrorists in this part of the world are often labelled freedom fighters, rebels or insurgents but the very same countries in the West act firm on terrorists in their own countries.

The United Nations Human Rights Council, several countries in the West and numerous INGOs have been voicing strongly against human rights and acts against mankind. However, hardly any of those had taken any notable measures to stop LTTE terrorist acts against civilians in Sri Lanka.

The LTTE, the world's most ruthless terrorist outfit. had been instrumental in hundreds of terror attacks, massive bomb explosions targeting innocent civilians and brutal killings for almost three decades until they were crushed militarily in May 2009.

■ In the guise of the so-called liberation of 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 25th in a series of graphic stories by the Sunday Observer on the anniversaries of those indiscriminate and inhuman attacks.

■ July 17, 1986: Armed terrorists entered block No. 4 of Sugar Corp. Kantalai and shot dead 10 persons including seven Sinhalese and two Muslims.







July 19, 1986: Armed terrorists shot dead 12 Sinhalese villagers including women and children in Vadigawewa, Medirigiriya, Polonnaruwa. At least five others suffered serious cut wounds.

■ July 19, 1986: Villages of Beruwil and Waigawewa were stormed by a large armed group of LTTE cadre numbering over 100, killing 17 villagers including women and children, as well as causing serious cut wounds to at least five others.

> ■ July 15, 1990: K. Kanagaratnam, Member of Parliament from the Eastern Province was killed by the LTTE.

■ July 15, 1992: Terrorists attacked a civilian bus proceeding from Kathankudy towards Kalmunai, killing 19 Muslims and injuring seven Muslims in Kirankulam.

■ July 21, 1992: Terrorists attacked the Colombo-Batticaloa train, ordering passengers to get down and opening fire at Muslim passengers. Seven Muslims were killed and 12 injured. The LTTE also exploded the engine of the train in Parangiyamadu.

■ July 18, 1996: Tiger terrorists overrun the Sri Lanka Army camp in Mullaitivu, killing over 1,200 troops. LTTE terrorists burnt alive hundreds of soldiers who had surrendered during the attack.

■ July 17, 1997: A North Korean ship carrying food was attacked by LTTE terrorists who later seized it, killing one crew member.

July 18, 1998: Two civilians were killed and one injured when LTTE terrorists fired at a group of civilians at Mangalagama and Nuwaragaltenna in Ampara district.



July 18, 1998: One civilian was killed by LTTE gunmen in Navallady, Batticaloa.

July 15, 1998: PLOTE Parliamentarian Sarawanabavanandan Shanmuganathan alias Vasanthan was killed by Tiger terrorists in a bomb explosion in Irambaikkulam, Vavunia,

■ July 17, 1999: A time bomb fixed to a bicycle exploded near the old police station, Batticaloa, killing two civilians and injuring 17 others.

■ July 16, 2007: Tigers gunned down Eastern Province Chief Secretary Herath Abeyweera in Trincomalee.

■ July 20, 1997: Member of Parliament for Trincomalee District, Mohommed Maharoof was killed by LTTE terrorists.

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