

# Terrorism in the guise of liberation-26

■ The LTTE rump, targeting the UN Human Rights Commission sessions scheduled for later this year, is working round the clock, lobbying the politicians and various state officials of Western countries in a determined bid to exert pressure on Sri Lanka.

■ LTTE cahoots are extremely clever in adopting various ploys and tactics to win sympathy of Western countries. The LTTE Diaspora is coming out with various concocted stories to discredit the Government and its Security Forces. They even go to extent of crediting the killings due to personal reasons to the Government's 'account', projecting a gloomy picture of Sri Lanka.

■ Instead of being carried away by the fairytales of the LTTE Diaspora, politicians in the West must first have a closer look at the notorious track record of the LTTE which easily was adjudged as the world's most ruthless terrorist outfit. There was a time LTTE terrorists killed thousands of innocent civilians in broad daylight, violating all accepted norms and human rights.

■ 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 26th in a series of graphic stories by the **Sunday Observer** on the anniversaries of those indiscriminate and inhuman attacks.



**Katunayake Air Force Base attack**

■ **July 27, 1975:** Tiger terrorists committed their first murder when Alfred Duraiyappah, former Mayor and MP for Jaffna was killed by Velupillai Prabhakaran. Duraiyappah was on his way to a Hindu temple for prayers, although he was a Christian.

■ **July 23, 1983:** Thirteen soldiers were killed in an LTTE ambush in Jaffna

■ **July 22, 1986:** Terrorists exploded a land mine on a civilian bus, killing 32 Sinhalese and injuring 20 others in Mamaduwa, Vavuniya.

■ **July 24, 1986:** When CTB bus No. 28 Sri 6899 was proceeding from Vavuniya to Anuradhapura with a load of passengers at Issenbessagala, a bomb was exploded inside the bus killing 13 passengers and injuring 40 others.

■ **July 24, 1986:** About 50 LTTE cadres entered Damana, a Sinhalese village and killed nine persons, injuring another 13 people.



■ **July 28, 1988:** Armed LTTE terrorists attacked Ethawatuwewa an ancient Sinhalese village and butchered 16 civilians including women and children. One sustained serious injuries. Later, the village became the last Sinhalese village to survive on the borders of the Northern Province and obviously the one which suffered the most number of terror raids.

■ **July 23, 1990:** Terrorists had killed eight persons and hanged them on trees. The victims were innocent Muslim civilians from Veeracholai, Batticaloa.

■ **July 24, 1990:** A group of over 50 LTTE cadres armed with firearms, swords and machetes attacked Aralaganwila village in Ampara. The terrorists brutally massacred eight civilians including women and children by torturing and chopping them with sharp weapons. The terrorists carried out a record seven village massacres this week.

■ **July 25, 1990:** LTTE terrorists stormed Wan Ela ancient Sinhalese village in Trincomalee armed with firearms and sharp weapons brutally massacring nine civilians including women and children after subjecting them to inhumane torture.

■ **July 25, 1990:** LTTE terrorists, armed with sharp weapons and fire arms, stormed Meeyankulama ancient Sinhalese village in Polonnaruwa and tortured eight civilians including women and children to death.



■ **July 26, 1990:** A group of around 50 terrorists hacked and shot to death 19 Sinhalese and set fire to 30 houses in Thammanna, Armedelawaka, Medavachchiya.

■ **July 25, 1993:** LTTE raided a Sinhalese village and kills nine civilians by stabbing, shooting and blowing up with grenades at Janakapura.

■ **July 24, 1996:** Two bombs ripped through a crowded train at the Dehiwala Railway Station. 64 commuters were killed and over 500 were wounded.

■ **July 24, 2001:** Heavily armed LTTE terrorists attacked Katunayake Air Force Base and adjoining Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake, killing 21 people. They also destroyed as many aircraft as possible, crippling the country's economy and bringing the tourist industry to a complete standstill.

■ **July 26, 2006:** LTTE blocks Mavil Aru anicut, depriving over 15,000 civilians of their basic need of water. Sri Lanka Army decided to embark on a humanitarian operation to take control of the gates.

■ 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