

Terrorism in the guise of liberation – 47

■ The LTTE rump has not given up its dreams and continues to lobby of politicians and state officials of Western countries.

■ Using 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. Even killings due to personal disputes too have been credited to the Government's 'account', to discredit the Security Forces.

■ For nearly three decades, the LTTE terrorists had been killing thousands of innocent civilians in broad daylight, violating all accepted norms and human rights. There was hardly anybody to support Sri Lanka then, except for a handful of friendly countries.

■ 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.

■ This is the 47th in a series of graphic stories by the **Sunday Observer** on the anniversaries of those indiscriminate and inhuman attacks.



President Chandrika Kumaratunga

■ **Dec. 18, 1999:** Over 31 people were killed and more than 180 persons sustained injuries when the LTTE failed in its attempt to assassinate President Chandrika Kumaratunga by deploying a female suicide bomber at an election meeting at the Town Hall in Colombo. However, she was injured in one eye due to shrapnel injuries. Among those killed were four police personnel, including Colombo's Deputy Inspector-General T.N. de Silva. At least three senior ministers and some foreign journalists, including a Japanese television crew, were among the injured.

■ **Dec. 18, 2007:** The LTTE failed with another public devastation when a Colombo bound train from Trincomalee was caught in a claymore explosion at Parakrama Road in Kantale. No one was injured but the engine suffered slight damage.

■ **Dec. 18, 2006:** Tamil civilians who had been subjected to untold privations in the LTTE held areas sought protection of the Security Forces. The civilian population trapped by them for one and a half months in Vakarai and Kathirveli continued to pour into Government held areas in Valachchenai. In Welikanda nearly 24,000 civilians took refuge in Government held areas in Batticaloa.

■ **Dec. 19, 2006:** The LTTE abducted 24 students and two teachers in Vinayagampuram, Batticaloa. The students, 21 girls and three boys, were revising the subjects they were to sit at next day's GCE O/L when they were taken away by the LTTE to their training camps in Kanchikudiaru.



Major General Lucky Algama



■ **Dec. 18, 1999:** Skandaraja Ashoka, an LTTE suicide bomber, detonated a bomb strapped to his body killing retired Major General Lucky Algama and 11 other at a United National Party (UNP) election rally at Ja-Ela

■ **Dec. 19, 2008:** Another major disaster planned by the LTTE was averted when an LTTE suspect who attempted to explode a bomb inside a bus was arrested in Meegoda, Padukka. A policeman travelling in a packed CTB bus plying from Maharagama to Kurunegala observed the man carrying a suspicious looking parcel.



■ **Dec. 20, 1985:** Six Madu pilgrims abducted by the LTTE eight days ago were executed by Tiger cadres in Mannar.

■ **Dec. 20, 2006:** LTTE terrorists abducted six civilians from a Batticaloa-Colombo bus in the Kiran area of Korakallimadu, Eravur. An armed LTTE group stormed a Batticaloa-Colombo bound bus and forcibly pulled out several adult males and females and fled from the area. The passengers travelling from cleared to uncleared areas. The bus was blocked by 15 armed Tigers who pulled out 19 passengers comprising 16 males and three females.



Je-ela Bombing scene

■ **Dec. 22, 1987:** Six civilians, including a Tamil, were tortured to death by Tiger terrorists in Morawewa, Trincomalee.

We salute Sri Lanka's Security Forces for providing a safer today for all



GRAPHIC BY MAHIL WJESINGHE



Displaced families in Morawewa

■ **Dec. 17, 1996:** A Deputy Police Commander was killed when a motorcycle laden with explosives was blown up by a male suicide bomber at a police unit in Amparai.

■ **Dec. 18, 1983:** LTTE terrorists shot dead UNP candidate for Provincial Council elections S. Gopallapillai in Jaffna.

