

Atrocities by LTTE terrorists

April 7 - 13

■ It is still fresh in people's minds how LTTE terrorists carried out some of the most brutal bomb attacks and massacred Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim civilians during their three-decades of terror.

■ This **Sunday Observer** graphic series highlights how the Tigers carried out their brutal terror acts in the guise of so-called liberation until they were crushed militarily by our valiant Security Forces by May 18, 2009.

■ **April 7, 1978:** Inspector Bastianpillai and Sub-Inspector Perampalan were shot dead by LTTE terrorists along with their chauffeur while chasing down Maheshwaran in Mankulam, Mannar. Bastianpillai's body was then mutilated and their car set on fire after its radio equipment was taken away by the Tigers.



■ **April 7, 2006:** LTTE terrorists brutally killed Vanniasingham Vigneswaran, the President of the Trincomalee District Tamil People's Forum in Trincomalee. Vigneswaran, an employee of Bank of Ceylon, was shot dead by unidentified gunmen who arrived in a motor cycle when he was entering the bank.

■ **April 7, 2007:** An LTTE attack at Piramankulam in Vavuniya killed many innocent civilians.

■ **April 7, 2007:** LTTE exploded a bomb at a civilian bus travelling along the Vavuniya-Mannar main road, killing eight people and wounding 26.



■ **April 8, 1988:** Armed Tiger terrorists killed 14 Sinhalese villages in Horowpathana, Meegastwewa in Anuradhapura.

■ **April 8, 2009:** UN Under Secretary General Sir John Holmes said that although the LTTE leadership says that the Tamil civilians accompanied them into the war zone voluntarily and they do not want to leave, there are continuing reports of shooting at fleeing civilians, destroying boats to prevent them leaving and forcing them to fight against their will by the LTTE. He said it is clear that the LTTE is refusing to let people flee, though many are managing to escape somehow.



■ **April 9, 2009:** UN Under Secretary General Sir John Holmes said that although the LTTE leadership says that the Tamil civilians accompanied them into the war zone voluntarily and they do not want to leave, there are continuing reports of shooting at fleeing civilians, destruction of boats to prevent them leaving and forcing them to fight against their will by the LTTE.

■ **April 10, 1992:** A car bomb, set up by the LTTE, exploded in Maharagama, killing eight civilians and a policeman. Twenty three civilians were injured.



■ **April 10, 2006:** The LTTE killed five security forces personnel and two civilians by activating a claymore mine targeting an army double cab at Mirusavil. The civilians were members of the NGO HUDEC engaged in relief activities for the tsunami affected in Jaffna.

■ **April 11, 1999:** Two persons are killed and more than 20 others sustained injuries when a suspected LTTE suicide bomber blew himself up in a passenger bus in Kandy.

■ **April 11, 2006:** Ten sailors and a civilian driver were killed and nine others injured when a Navy convoy was caught up in a LTTE claymore mine, in Thampalagamuwa on the Trincomalee-Habarana road. Among the injured were a female British national whose van passed the spot at the time the blast occurred, travelling in the opposite direction.

■ **April 10, 1992:** A powerful bomb explosion carried out by Tiger terrorists killed 25 civilians and injured many others in Ampara.



■ **April 12, 2006:** The United States condemned the LTTE in the strongest possible terms over the recent terrorist attacks carried out by the outfit, killing several Armed Forces personnel. In a statement, the US Government extended its sympathies to the families of the victims and called upon the LTTE to return to talks on the implementation of the Ceasefire Agreement. While strongly condemning LTTE attacks, the US Government has commended the continued restraint of the Government in the face of these provocations. The US government also condemned the murder of V. Vigneswaran in Trincomalee.

■ **April 12, 2007:** LTTE terrorists raided a village at Arantalawa, Vavuniya and shot dead seven people, six women and one man, on the eve of the traditional New Year.

■ **April 12, 2009:** LTTE terrorists entered Mahagodayaya village in Monaragala district and brutally killed nine people including two children. Several others were wounded.

■ **April 13, 1998:** An LTTE terrorist lobbed a grenade into a crowded market in Jaffna, killing two persons, including a pregnant woman and injuring 18. The attack came during the festive season as civilians were shopping just ahead of the traditional New Year.

The freedom enjoyed by one and all today had been achieved due to the supreme sacrifices by the Security Forces, the political sagacity of President Mahinda Rajapaksa and the military strategies of Defence Secretary Gotabaya Rajapaksa.



GRAPHIC BY MAHIL WIJESINGHE