

Atrocities by LTTE terrorists

May 5 - 11

■ 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- decade of terror.

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

■ **May 5, 1985:** An armed group of LTTE cadres stormed into Sinhala villages of Vilpattu in Anuradhapura district and brutally assassinated 18 villagers, including women and children.

■ **May 5, 1986:** Four Moor civilians were tortured and killed by a group of LTTE cadres in Kinniya.

■ **May 5, 1986:** Leader of TELO, Sri Sabarathnam was shot dead by senior LTTE leader Sathasivan Krishnakumar alias Kittu

■ **May 5, 1991:** Two 'Sea Tigers' attacked a Naval Vessel in Trincomalee with an explosive-laden boat killing five SF personnel.

■ **May 5, 1999:** LTTE gunmen shot dead PLOTE Member, Pachchilaipalli Pradheshiya Sabha, Veerahaththy Gunaratnam in Vavuniya.

■ **May 5, 2006:** Prominent Tamil academic and Jaffna University Vice Chancellor Dr. Ratnajeevan Hoole fled the country with his family after many death threats by the LTTE. Dr. Hoole's decision to seek refuge in a foreign country was due to a consistent campaign of threats and intimidation by agents of the LTTE.



■ **May 6, 1986:** A massive bomb detonated by the LTTE cadres inside the Central Telegraph Office (CTO) in Fort killed 14 civilians who were at the office. Several others were injured in the attack that shocked the capital.

■ **May 7, 1990:** EPRLF parliamentarian for Batticaloa district, Sam Thambimuttu was shot head by LTTE gunmen in Colombo.

■ **May 9, 2006:** A major disaster planned by the LTTE was averted when an Army patrol recovered seven claymore mines at Kappativu in the North. Seven mines, each weighing 10 kg were recovered in the wee hours, following a tip off given by civilians in the area.

■ **May 9, 2008:** The LTTE proved that they do not believe in the ballot when they attempted to disrupt elections to the Eastern Provincial Council. Thirteen civilians were killed and 29 others injured when a parcel bomb ripped through an eatery in Ampara. The blast at the City Cafe Hotel near the Ampara Clock tower came on the eve of the EPC election.



Sam Thambimuttu



■ **May 9, 2008:** Security Forces further consolidated its gains in the Mannar sector by capturing the strategic Adampan town area while moving ahead one square km in Alankulam. The LTTE retreated from its positions in Adampan town in the face of heavy firepower from the Security Forces who have launched a stiff offensive to liberate the Wanni front. Two soldiers were killed and seven others injured in the incident.

■ **May 10, 2006:** The LTTE continued to intimidate Tamils living in the Netherlands. Dutch Minister of Justice, Donner and Minister of Immigration Mrs. Verdonk said that there are signs that the Tamil community in The Netherlands is being intimidated to raise funds for the terror outfit.

■ **May 10, 2009:** Over 1,500 civilians who were forcibly held by the LTTE terrorists, crossed over to the cleared areas. Troops advancing further into the No Fire Zone amidst heavy resistance by the LTTE, rescued over 650 civilians while the Sri Lanka Navy freed over 300 people who were fleeing the area by boats.



■ **May 11, 1991:** At Kankesanthurai, three Navy personnel are killed during an attack by a group of three male 'Sea Tigers'.

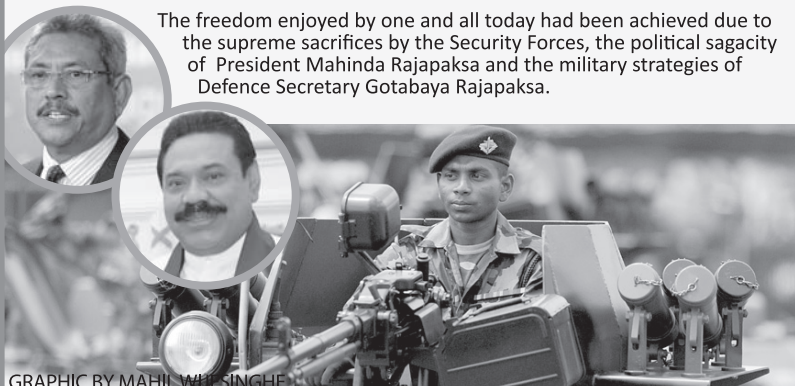
■ **May 11, 2006:** Navy supported by the Air Force repulsed a major LTTE attack on the troops carrying the vessel Pearl Cruiser successfully retaliating a flotilla of 15 suicide Sea Tiger boats in the sea off Vettlaikerni. At least 15 sailors were killed in the battle.

■ **May 11, 2006:** The LTTE proved that they are not interested in peace as a Tiger attack sunk one Navy ship and damaged another. Two Norwegian peace keeping officers too were among the unfortunate victims and the attack prompted the European Union to ban the terror outfit.

■ **May 11, 2008:** A piece of torso of a person and diving equipment were found floating near the sunken Naval ship A 520 (MV Invincible), in Trincomalee, suggesting the handiwork of a suicide bomber in the destruction of the vessel, the previous day. Navy divers recovered body parts of the suspected LTTE suicide cadre from the waters where the outfit sank a navy cargo ship in the Trincomalee harbour,



■ **May 11, 2009:** The LTTE proved that they do not care for the lives of their own community when the terrorists indiscriminately fired at Tamil civilians who were running from the No Fire Zone to cleared areas to seek the protection of the Security Forces. Many Tamil civilians were killed while 60 managed to escape and seek protection with troops of the 53 Division.



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.