

Atrocities by LTTE terrorists

Dec 1 - 7

■ 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.

■ **Dec. 1, 1984:** Armed Tiger terrorists shot dead 11 Sinhalese settlers in Kokilai, Vavuniya.

■ **Dec. 1, 2001:** LTTE terrorists killed the abducted the Grama Sevaka of Kudumbamalai and a youth at Santhiveli, north of Batticaloa. The two bodies of the deceased were found tied to lamp posts with chains on two by-roads leading to the Batticaloa beach. They had head injuries.

■ **Dec. 1, 2006:** A suicide attack by the LTTE targeting Defence Secretary, Gotabaya Rajapaksa near Piththala junction, Dharmapala Mawatha in Colombo injured seven army personnel and seven civilians. Two of the injured army personnel subsequently succumbed to their injuries. The suicide bomber rammed his three-wheeler into the convoy of the Defence Secretary who was en route to Temple Trees for an official meeting. He escaped unhurt. The headless body of the suicide bomber was recovered from the site. At least eight vehicles, including that of the Defence Secretary, were damaged in the attack.



■ **Dec. 3, 2007:** Timely intervention by the Security Forces prevented another LTTE attempt to assassinate a Tamil politician as a bomb weighing 1.5 kg was recovered on a tip-off and defused by the Air Force opposite the residence of Tamil National Alliance (TNA) parliamentary M. K. Shivajilingham at the Summit Flats in Keppitipola Mawatha, Jawatta. The parcel bomb had been placed near a telephone post exactly opposite the Summit flats.



■ **Dec. 4, 2005:** The Divisional Secretary (AGA) of Kattankudy, A.L.M. Faleel was shot dead by LTTE terrorists in Batticaloa.

■ **Dec. 4, 2005:** Amnesty International (AI) Director Irene Zubaida Khan urged LTTE's political wing head S.P. Thamilselvan to put an end to LTTE inspired political violence and uphold human rights. She also expressed concern over recruitment and training of underaged youth by the outfit. Urging the LTTE to abide by the Ceasefire Agreement, Khan expressed concerns over the killings of civilians by the LTTE in the North and the East.



■ **Dec. 5, 2007:** Sixteen passengers were killed and another 23 sustained injuries when their bus was caught in an LTTE claymore mine explosion in Abhimanapura, Kebithigollewa. The morning explosion took place as the crowded SLTB bus from Janakapura was nearing its final destination. This was the second such attack in Kebithigollawa after 64 civilians including 12 children were killed in a similar claymore mine targeting a bus on June 15, 2006.

■ **Dec. 5, 1978:** Police constables Kingsley Perera and Satchithanadan were shot dead by LTTE terrorists who robbed the People's Bank branch at Nallur and escaped with over Rs.1 million in cash.

■ **Dec. 5, 1995:** During an attack on the police camp in Batticaloa by a group of three male suicide bombers driving a truck laden with explosives, at least 23 police personnel were killed.

■ **Dec. 6, 1998:** Tiger terrorists attempted to assassinate Minister of Power and Energy and Deputy Minister of Defence, Anuruddha Ratwatte by firing mortars at Oddusudan.



■ **Dec. 6, 2005:** One officer and six soldiers were killed when a claymore mine blew up their tractor in Kopay, Jaffna. They were taking breakfast to soldiers on guard duty and protecting civilians in the area.

■ **Dec. 7, 2006:** Three civilians were killed and 11 schoolchildren and a teacher were injured when indiscriminate artillery fire by the LTTE hit Somadevi Vidyalaya and a nearby village in Kallaru, Trincomalee. The Tiger cadres fired artillery towards Somadevi school in Kallaru and later fired another round of artillery shells on a house in the Kallaru village killing three civilians including a 10-year-old child.

The freedom enjoyed by one and all today was 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.

