

Atrocities by LTTE terrorists

Dec 15 - 21

■ 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. 15, 1987:** Terrorists attacked Devalagodella and Somawathiya village, killing nine villagers and injuring several others.



■ **Dec 15, 1999:** LTTE terrorists launched a mortar attack on the populated areas of Chavakachcheri, Jaffna killing one civilian and wounding eight others.

■ **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 stationed in Amparai.

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

■ **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, 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. 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 the protection of the Security Forces. The civilian population trapped by them for one and a half months in Vakara 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 the GCE O/L when they were taken away by the LTTE to their training camps in Kanchikudiaru.

■ **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 the area. The passengers were 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.

■ **Dec. 21, 1987:** Six civilians, including a Tamil, were tortured to death by Tiger terrorists in Morawewa, Trincomalee.

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.

