

Atrocities by LTTE terrorists

May 18 - 24

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 the so-called liberation until they were crushed militarily by our valiant Security Forces by May 18, 2009.

■ **May 18, 1977:** Two Tamil officers who opposed LTTE terror were killed by Tiger cadres in Inuvil in the Jaffna District.

■ **May 18, 2009:** Security Forces liberated the country from the clutches of LTTE terror and successfully ended the humanitarian operation. Bodies of three key LTTE leaders identified as Nadeshan, Pulidevan and Ramesh were found during the mopping up operations North of Vellamullivaikkal. LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran and several other top leaders were killed during the final phase of the battle at Nandikadal lagoon.

■ **May 19, 1991:** LTTE cadres attacked five Muslims and two Sinhala, whilst they were returning from a paddy-field, killing six and injuring one at Erakkamam, Ampara.



■ **May 19, 2009:** President Mahinda Rajapaksa made a historic speech at the ceremonial opening of Parliament and announced the liberation of the country from LTTE terrorism.

■ **May 20, 1991:** Terrorists fired at a group of Muslims who were returning from a paddy-field in a tractor at Malwatta, Sammanthurai. Nine Muslims were killed and two others were injured.

■ **May 20, 2006:** A 12-year-old boy, who refused to join the ranks of the LTTE baby brigade, was mercilessly gunned down by the LTTE pistol men at his grandmother's residence in Mavadivembu in Batticaloa.



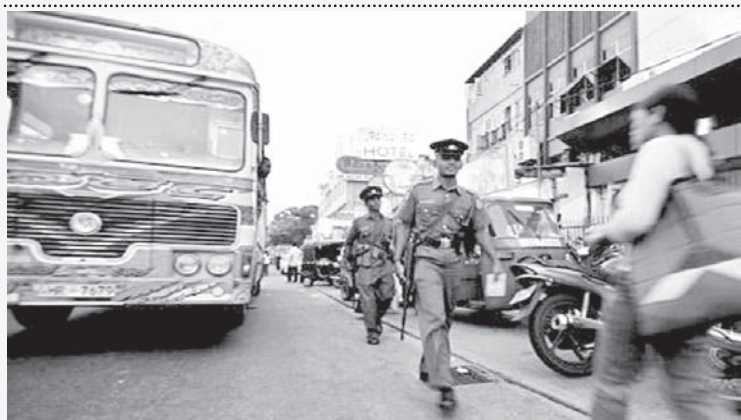
■ **May 21, 1991:** Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and 18 persons were killed by a LTTE woman suicide bomber during an election rally in Sriperumbudur, 30 miles off the Tamil Nadu capital, Chennai.

■ **May 21, 2006:** A Serbian national and two Muslims were injured when suspected LTTE cadres on a motorbike launched simultaneous hand grenade attacks on three NGO buildings in Muttur.

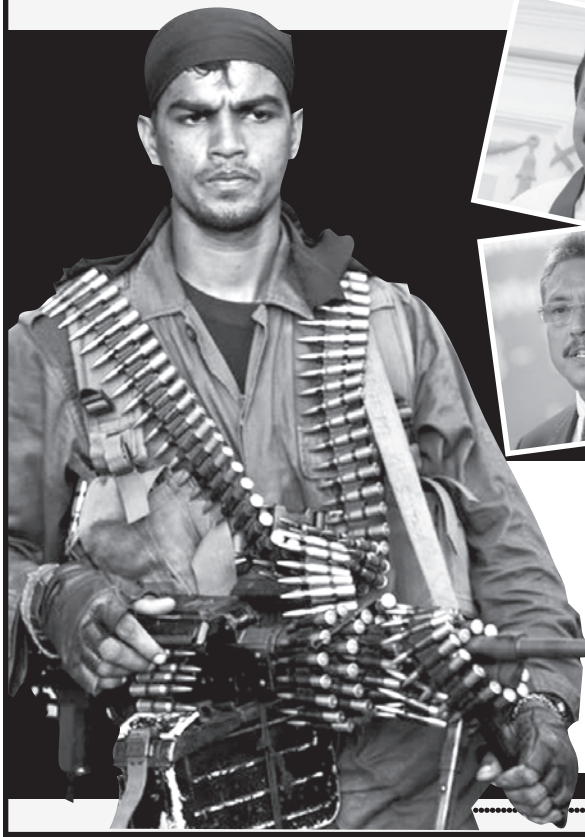
■ **May 22, 2006:** A Colombo-bound night train from Batticaloa came under LTTE fire at Wandaramulla. One compartment was damaged in the attack.

■ **May 23, 2006:** Residents in the Kayts Islands were forced to flee their homes due to LTTE threats. LTTE's expulsion drive against the civilians is a premeditated plan well implemented. During the past the civilians in this area cooperated with the Navy and the Police and defied LTTE orders to evacuate.

■ **May 24, 1981:** Former All Ceylon Tamil Congress parliamentarian for Vadukkodai, UNP candidate and former principal, Karainagar Hindu College A. Thiagarajah was shot dead by LTTE in Jaffna.



■ **May 24, 2007:** An LTTE suicide bomber on an explosive laden motor bicycle rammed a bus carrying army personnel at First Cross Street in Colombo. Two soldiers were killed and five other persons were injured in the attack.



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