

Atrocities by LTTE terrorists

March 17 – 23



■ 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 brutal terror acts in the guise of so-called liberation until they were crushed militarily by the Security Forces.

■ **March 17, 1988:** Tiger terrorists hacked to death 13 Sinhala villagers at Deegavapiya, Damana in Ampara district.

■ **March 18, 1999** A female suicide bomber killed herself and two persons near a police station in Colombo. The bomber's target was Chief Inspector Mohammed Nilabdeen, head of the terrorism investigation unit. Eight civilians were injured in the incident.



■ **March 18, 2009:** Eyewitness reports from LTTE held areas said that an unprecedented killings and torture take place due to Tiger terror. Civilians pleaded with the ICRC to save them from LTTE atrocities in the LTTE-held area which include forceful recruitment, killings and kidnappings taking place in the No Fire Zone.

■ **March 19, 1991:** Five soldiers were killed in a LTTE suicide cadre attack at the Army camp in Silavathurai.



■ **March 19:** At least 29 Tamil civilians were killed by the LTTE, which tagged them as traitors for opposing Tiger terrorism.

■ **March 19, 2006:** The LTTE's plan for another suicide attack was prevented when a 38-year-old woman who concealed electricity wire her clothes was arrested by Wanathavilluwa Police in Puttalam when security was tightened in the area in view of an impending visit by President Mahinda Rajapakse. The woman had been first noticed by a passenger sitting next to her in the Eluvankulama-Puttalam bus.

■ **March 20, 2008:** Another major disaster was averted when an eight kg claymore mine with a 20 metre wire hidden by LTTE terrorists in the Thekkawatte area, Vavuniya was recovered during a search operation by the Army

■ **March 22, 1987:** Armed terrorists shot dead 26 Sinhala villagers in Serunewa, Horowpathana



■ **March 22, 1988:** A group of around 15 LTTE cadres attacked a Sinhala village and killed six civilians while injuring several others, in Pudukulam, Vavuniya.

■ **March 22, 1998:** Armed terrorists shot dead nine Sinhalese villagers in Medavachchikulam, Vavuniya.



■ **March 22, 2009:** Another batch of fleeing civilians numbering 108, sailing in six overcrowded dinghies were rescued by the Sri Lanka Navy, off the seas of Chundikulam. These civilians had fled LTTE held areas to avoid untold privations by Tigers.

The freedom enjoyed by one and all today has 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