Atrocities by LTTE terrorists

June 9 - 15

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.

June 9, 2006: A Tamil family of four was hacked to death by the LTTE in Vankalai, Mannar.

■ June 9, 2008: Exposing yet another instance of exploitation of children by the LTTE, troops operating on the Mannar front captured a female child soldier who had been forcibly deployed by the LTTE to guard their Forward Defences in Alankulam which came under heavy attack by the Army.

June 11, 1985: 13 Sinhalese settlers were shot dead by armed Tiger terrorists in Dehiwatta, in the Polonnaruwa district.

■ June 11, 1986: Two bombs exploded in two CTB buses one in front of the Bank of Ceylon and the other in close proximity to the SP's office, along Inner Harbour road, Trincomalee, almost simultaneously. The two buses were plying to Kantalai and Colombo. Twenty two persons were killed due to the explosion and 75 were injured.



June 11, 1987: 13 civilians were killed in a pressure mine explosion at Veppankulam, when a private van No. 38 Sri 496 proceeding from Horowpathana to Trincomalee was blasted by an LTTE pressure mine.

June 11, 1990: Over 250 LTTE cadres stormed the Batticaloa police station and carried out one of the deadliest massacres, brutally assassinating nearly 774 policemen.



■ June 11, 1996: The LTTE killed 14 civilians in Lunuoya. An LTTE cadre whose family had been killed due to violence, massacred the family of those thought to have been responsible for the killing of his family.

■ June 11, 2006: A soldier and eight civilians inside a dispensary in Thirunelveli-Palaly Road, Jaffna were severely injured in a powerful grenade attack carried out by the LTTE. Among the civilians injured was the wife of a doctor working at the Jaffna hospital.

■ June 11, 2008: The Security Forces averted a major disaster planned by the LTTE when a time bomb was found in the heart of Anuradhapura city close to the main clock tower along Main Street on a tip off.

June 11, 2008: The LTTE's plan for a major disaster was averted when the Terrorist Investigation Unit recovered a cache of explosives and arms from an estate in the Nuwara Eliya district. The TID special team has seized eight packets of C4 explosives each weighing 2 kg, 300 kgs of TNT, two T56 rifles, 40 detonators and a haul of T56 ammunition.

■ June 12, 1987: 175 villagers who assembled to discuss the construction of a new temple were surrounded by the LTTE at the old temple site. The brutal LTTE attack killed eight villagers while many others were injued in Godapotta, near Medirigiriya, Polonnaruwa.

■ June 11, 2008: Another major human massacre planned by the Tigers was prevented after a time bomb was found in the heart of Anuradhapura city close to the main clock tower along Main Street opposite the People's Bank by the Armed Forces. The bomb was hidden in a parcel containing a pair of shoes in a barrel placed on the roadside near a hotel.

June 12, 1991: An LTTE bomb explosion in Manmunai ferry in Kokkadicholai, killing 14 people, including 10 civilians.

June 12, 2006: A Tamil political party member in Nunavil, Jaffna was severely injured after he was shot by LTTE gunmen. In a separate incident, a group of Tiger terrorists attacked the Kopay police station with small arms fire after throwing a hand grenade at the main entrance.



June 13, 2006: A Tamil political party member in Nunavil, Jaffna was severely injured and admitted to the Jaffna Teaching Hospital after he was shot by an LTTE terrorist.

June 13, 2007: Police recovered a 15.5 kg claymore mine stored in a school bag concealed among the bushes on the seashore near the rail track in Nelson Place Wellawatta as LTTE's attempt to kill civilians failed.

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■ June 14, 2000: Two civilians are killed and 11 persons sustain injuries during an abortive attempt by a person on a bicycle fitted with an explosive device at the Gemunu Palace Cinema Junction in Wattala to target a Sri Lanka Air Force bus.

June 14, 2003: Leader of the EPRLF political party, Thambirajah Subathiran was murdered in Jaffna by an LTTE sniper. Subathiran has been critical of the way LTTE has been harrasing the Tamil population in Jaffna.



■ June 15, 2006: LTTE terrorists murdered 68 passengers, including 15 children, and injured at least 80 others when they exploded two claymore mines targeting a passenger transport bus at Kebitigollewa, Anuradhapura. The LTTE launched twin side-charger claymore mines targeting the CTB bus using a remote controlled device after the Army and the home guards cleared the road. This was the only available bus for these villages to reach Kebithigollewa for their daily needs. Most of them were attending the Kebithigollewa hospital children's clinic.

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.

