

Atrocities by LTTE terrorists

Sept 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.

■ The **Sunday Observer** graphic series highlights how the Tigers carried out brutal acts of terror in the guise of so-called liberation until they were crushed militarily by our valiant Security Forces on May 18, 2009.

■ **Sept 1, 1992:** The LTTE killed 22 Muslims while 67 others were injured in an explosion in Saindamaradu, Kalmunai.

■ **Sept 2, 1985:** Former MP for Kopay, M. Alasundaram was killed by LTTE gunmen in Thinnaveli, Jaffna.

■ **Sept 2, 1999:** Former PLOTE Deputy Chairman, Kaluvanchikudi Pradeshiya Sabha and Public Relations Officer Murugesu Gunaratnam (alias Vino) and Deputy Leader and 'Military Wing' leader, PLOTE, Nagalingam Manikkam Rajan (Manickathasan) were killed in an LTTE bomb attack in Vavuniya.

■ **Sept 2, 2006:** Security Forces repulsed a major Tiger attack by 20 LTTE gun boats off the northern Jaffna peninsula. Two Navy gun boats were damaged and two sailors were wounded.

■ **Sept 2, 2007:** Security Forces completed yet another humanitarian mission liberating nearly 6,000 civilians from LTTE's grip after taking control of Silavatura. The troops launched the operation by advancing towards Silavatura from Vankalai to rescue civilians held by the Tigers.



■ **Sept 2, 2008:** It was disclosed that around 300 to 400 upcountry Tamil youth had been taken to the North and trained by the LTTE for subversive activities during the controversial Ceasefire Agreement between Vellupillai Prabhakaran and Ranil Wickremesinghe in 2002. Police intelligence revealed that most of them were residents of Ambakottewate, Kengalle, Galaha, Maussawa, Rattota, Ukuwela, Nuwara Eliya and Hatton.



■ **Sept 3, 1985:** The LTTE shot dead former MP for Manipay V. Dharmalingam in Manipay, Jaffna.

■ **Sept 3, 2007:** Three civilians including a child were injured when the LTTE fired mortars at the Ethavetunuweva village in Weli-Oya. Three LTTE mortars had fallen into the Ethavetunuweva, injuring two women aged 35 and 55 and a 15-year-old boy.

■ **Sept 4, 2006:** Two buses transporting 30 policemen narrowly escaped being caught in an LTTE claymore mine in Medawachchiya. LTTE terrorists detonated two claymore mines targeting the buses carrying policemen on a special duty assignment to Kantale. The two claymores, weighing around 25kg, were planted in a part of the stretch between Thambave and Madawachchiya on the A9 Road in the direction of Chettikulam.

■ **Sept 4, 2008:** Intellectuals for Human Rights in a statement urged the LTTE to immediately stop the forcible use of civilians as a shield in its war since they believe that the LTTE was bent on keeping civilians in the Wannu against their will when the Government has requested people who had become refugees in Wannu to settle in the cleared areas.

■ **Sept 5, 2006:** One soldier was killed and seven others were injured when the LTTE directed artillery and mortar fire on the Selvanagar Army camp, a few miles off Sampur as sporadic clashes continued in the area.



■ **Sept 7, 2001:** About 140 bus passengers were indiscriminately fired upon by LTTE terrorists killing four of them in Mahindapura, Trincomalee. These passengers, using their one and only bus service available on the Kantalai - Verugal road, were on their way to a religious ceremony at Sri Kandaswami Hindu Kovil in Kadiraveli.

■ **Sept 7, 2006:** A US Government report disclosed that the LTTE had recruited tsunami orphaned children into its fighting units picking them from survivors' camps in the North and East. The US Government report on Child Labour revealed that the Tigers recruited children from tsunami survivors' camps.



■ **Sept 7, 2007:** Three civilians were killed when a tractor transporting sand from Uppudai to Vantharamoolai in Batticaloa was caught in a landmine explosion. Three civilians aged 40, 41 including the tractor driver and a 17-year-old youth travelling in the tractor were killed in the landmine explosion set by the LTTE.



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.



GRAPHIC: MAHIL WIJESINGHE