

CHRONOLOGY OF LTTE TERROR - Part 23

From the **Daily News Archives**

When the euphoria of victory dies down, and together with it the media hype ceases, when the guns do not rattle and boom anymore, and the sky, the land and the sea become calm and serene, when tranquillity reigns through it is natural to live in the present moment and forget the past. But one cannot live in the present without a past. Nor can one envision the future discarding the experience of the preceding events. Hence the Daily News is serialising the Chronicle of LTTE Terror taken from our own archives which would remind our readers how it all began. An awareness of the chronology of terror would help us prevent the recurrence of such terror and frustrate any attempts by misguided elements to repeat history to suit their evil designs. It was not simple terror. Nor was terror sporadic. It was all pre-planned, pre-determined, well-calculated terror. The victims were innocent people. Though it is too many innumerate we would like to recall the major episodes in the Chronology of Terror.

LTTE forcing PLOTE to quit?

One of Sri Lanka's Tamil rebel groups says attacks by a rival organisation have forced it to suspend all military activities against the central government in the island's northern province.

The People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam, (PLOTE) said in a statement last night it was suspending its operations after some of its men were assaulted on Tuesday and their arms removed by the rival Liberation Tigers of

Tamil Eelam (LTTE). "We understand the Tigers are planning to eradicate our organisation and in order to prevent another blood bath, we are suspending all activities", it said in a statement in newspapers in rebel controlled Jaffna city.

The LTTE move appeared to be part of its attempt to override the other guerrilla groups in the area before its planned declaration of an independent state in January next year, sources close to the rebels told Reuters.



Flashback to 1986

Grieving for their loved ones



Another victim of terrorism being carried to safety

Prabakaran keeps away from talks with MGR

Velupillai Prabakaran did not attend Sunday's meeting in Madras where Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran met leaders of five separatist groups, the Indian press reported.

The *Hindustan Times* said that Prabakaran was supposed to be ill and Balasingham attended "after a long interval".

The groups represented at the meeting were EROS, LTTE, TELO, EPRFL and PLOTE.

The Chief Minister was assisted by his Food Minister S. Ramachandran and Law Minister C. Ponniah. Constitutional expert S. Balakrishnan from the Delhi Home Ministry was also associated with the Tamil Nadu ministers.

The Hindu said that Food Minister Ramachandran had told reporters after the meeting that the Tamil groups had given a careful hearing to what was said and received certain clarifications.

Lanka facing 'most decisive moment' in her history

Next fortnight crucial: Lalith

The next two weeks will be the most decisive in the history of Sri Lanka, National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said on Tuesday.

"If terrorists refuse to settle things peacefully, the government will be compelled to decide on an alternative and pursue it most determinedly."

Mr. Athulathmudali observed that for the first time the Sri Lanka government was able to convince the world of its sincere intentions in solving the problem peacefully and in the most democratic manner.

The minister added: "The world and the Indian government, including Tamil Nadu, changed their opinion in our favour after watching us and studying service to the motherland in the event of the failure of a peaceful settlement of this national problem."

The minister was addressing a large gathering at Indurawe, after opening a two-storey building at Gonagala Maha Vidyalyaya.

He said the failure of the peace talks with the terrorists would be a serious challenge to the sovereignty and independence of "Our motherland".

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Mr. Athulathmudali cautioned the people to be prepared to render dedicated service to the motherland in the event of the failure of a peaceful settlement of this national problem.

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Health hazards with Jaffna 'lifelines' cut

Terrorist disruption of roads in the Jaffna Peninsula has resulted in a serious health hazard with a possible epidemic of dysentery, the government media centre said yesterday.

The health authorities want the roads repaired because, with the rains, there may be pollution of drinking water, leading to diseases like dysentery which might assume epidemic proportions.

Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents have come to Colombo to arrange for regular supplies of essentials to their areas. The authorities in Colombo have agreed to repair the damaged culverts.