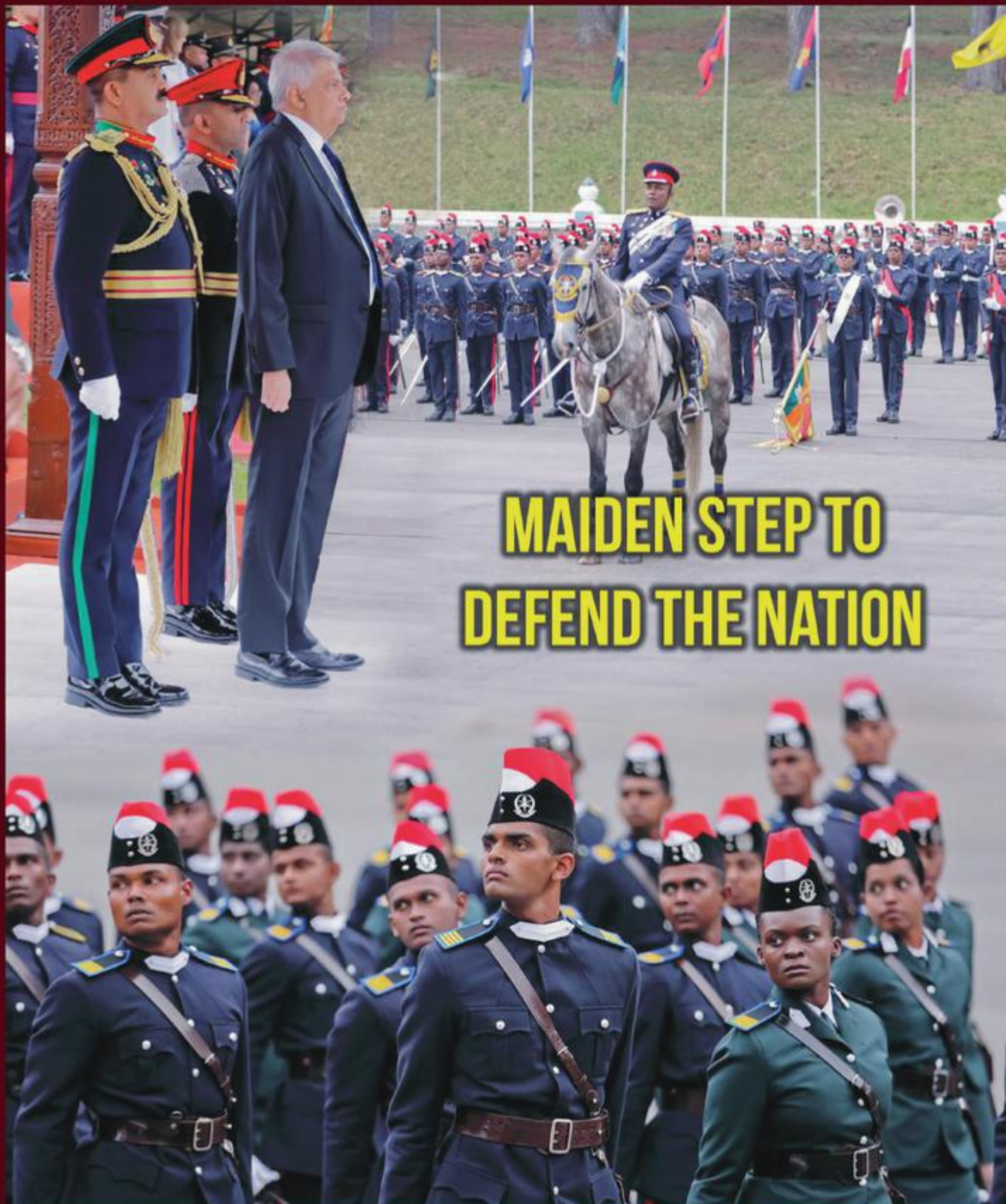




DECEMBER 2022 20th Issue

Ranaviruwa



**MAIDEN STEP TO
DEFEND THE NATION**

Young Defenders of the Nation passed out



352 more full-fledged Officer Cadets vowed to protect the Motherland passed out on 17 December 2022 from the Sri Lanka Military Academy (SLMA). Honourable Ranil Wickremesinghe the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka graced the event as the Chief Guest at the invitation of Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army.

A total of 352 Officer Cadets from Intakes 89, 91, 91 B, SC 19, Lady Intake 19, 61 (V), 61 (A) and Lady Intake 18 (V) including three foreign Officer Cadets of the Maldives and Zambia passed out during this dignified ceremony.



“The dignified event marked a significant chapter of the Sri Lanka Military Academy. These bold youth stepped to the Sri Lanka Army as the future Defenders of the valorous Army who brought peace to the island”





Honourable Premitha Bandara Tennakoon State Minister of Defence, Mr. Sagala Ratnayake Chief of Staff of the President and Senior Advisor to the President, General D G H K Gunaratne (Rtd) WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc MPhil Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, General Shavendra Silva WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil Chief of Defence Staff, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army, Defence Advisors/Attachés, Tri-Service Senior Officers, Commandant of Sri Lanka Military Academy, Senior Officers, parents and next of kins of Officer Cadets participated in the passing out.

SLMA graduates presented final research study to the President



Presentation of the final research study of Officer Cadets who passed out on 17 December 2022 at the Sri Lanka Military Academy (SLMA), presented their well-prepared compendium of research findings under the theme 'Russia – Ukraine Conflict and its Effects on South Asia' to the audience, followed by an interactive question-answer session with the audience. Honourable Ranil Wickremesinghe the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka graced the thought-provoking session at the invitation of Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army.

The President also joined to release the Sri Lanka Military Academy journal, uploading its e-copy at the invitation of Major General W W H R R V M N D K B Niyangoda RWP RSP USP ndu psc Commandant, Sri Lanka Military Academy. Honourable Premitha Bandara Tennakoon State Minister of Defence, Mr. Sagala Ratnayake Chief of Staff of the President and Senior Advisor to the President, General D G H K Gunaratne (Rtd) WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc MPhil Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, General Shavendra Silva WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil Chief of Defence Staff, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army, Major General C D Weerasuriya RWP RSP ndu Chief of Staff and a gathering of Senior Officers and other dignitaries were present at the location.

Graduation of the Command and Staff Course

The graduation ceremony of the Defence Services Command and Staff College (DSCSC) Course No.16 took place at the Nelum Pokuna Theatre on 8 December 2022. Honourable Ranil Wickremesinghe the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka graced the event as the Chief Guest. General D G H K Gunaratne (Rtd) WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc MPhil Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, together with General Shavendra Silva WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil Chief of Defence Staff and Tri Forces Commanders warmly welcomed the Chief Guest to the graduation ceremony. Chief Guest President Ranil Wickremesinghe awarded special accolades to student officers excelled in academics during the ceremony.

Accordingly, 149 undergraduates, including 76 Army, 26 Navy and 25 Air Force Officers and 22 Officers from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal and Zambia received their graduation from the Chief Guest before the host of reputed scholars and invitees.

The DSCSC at Sapugaskanda, was established with the aim of developing command and staff attributes, knowledge and understanding of selected student Officers of the tri-services, Sri Lanka Police and foreign countries with the aim of preparing them for command and staff whilst imparting knowledge on state administrative procedures in the public sector.

Mr. Sagala Rathnayake Chief of Staff to the President and Senior Advisor to the President, General Shavendra Silva WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil Chief of Defence Staff, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army, Vice Admiral Nishantha Ulugethenna Commander of the Navy, Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana Commander of the Air Force, Heads of Diplomatic Missions and other members of the Diplomatic Corps, Members of the Board of Management of the DSCSC, Major General B K G M L Rodrigo RSP psc IG Commandant DSCSC, former members of the academia, senior Officers of the tri-services, Mrs. Janaki Liyanage President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit, spouses, parents and next of kin of the graduates participated in the ceremony.



Commander handed over Attaché Case to the President

The 'Attaché Case', which is also known as the Presidential Dispatch Bag, was crafted jointly by the Directorate of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (DEME) and the Directorate of Information Technology on the instructions of the Commander was handed over to the President on 2 December 2022 by Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army at the Presidential Secretariat.

The 'Attaché Case' is a sophisticated briefcase generally carried by world leaders as a tradition to carry their important and classified documents during official travelling. Introducing this world-class tradition to Sri Lanka, the President directed the Sri Lanka Army to craft this Presidential dispatch bag to quality of international standards.

Under the guidance and direct supervision of the Commander of the Army, a group of skilled experts in the relevant field, headed by Major General J A R S K Jayasekara USP psc Director General, Directorate of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, designed the state-of-the-art Dispatch Bag as per specifications given by the Presidential Secretariat incorporating high-end technology.



New Office Complex for the Commando Regiment



Commando Regiment (CR) Regimental Centre at Ganemulla added a new two-storied administrative building complex on 19 December 2022 during a brief ceremony. General D G H K Gunaratne (Rtd) WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc MPhil Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, graced the inaugural event as the Chief Guest, together with General Shavendra Silva WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil Chief of Defence Staff and Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army.

Major General A K G K U Gnanarathne ndc psc Colonel of the Regiment, Commando Regiment along with Brigadier B M S K K Dharmawardena RWP RSP USP Centre Commandant, Commando Regiment welcomed the distinguished guests for the warming ceremony offering the Chief Guest a Guard Turnout.

After warming the complex, the invitees had a close look visiting every section of the new office complex and planted a sapling in the premises. Senior Officers including, Major General C D Weerasuriya RWP RSP ndu Chief of Staff, Major General D G S Senarath Yapa RWP RSP ndu Deputy Chief of Staff, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks were associated with the ceremonial opening ceremony.

X'Mas festive sentiments filled the Army Headquarters



Sharing the compliments of the seasonal greetings, the Sri Lanka Army heralded Christmas and the dawn of New Year, holding its annual Christmas Carols service at Nelum Pokuna auditorium on 20 December 2022.

General D G H K Gunaratne (Rtd) WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc MPhil Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, graced the spectacle as the Chief Guest at the invitation of Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army and the Army Christian Fellowship.

The colourful event was filled with odes to Jesus Christ, harmony among all, exchanging the greetings and compliments of the season spreading the good waves for world peace and prosperity. The message circulated in all three major languages; Sinhala, Tamil and English. **Rev Fr Jude Sharman** shared the Christmas message among all during the event.

General Shavendra Silva WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil Chief of Defence Staf, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army, Vice Admiral Priyantha Perera Commander of the Navy, Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana Commander of the Air Force, C D Wickramaratne Inspector General of Police, Major General (Rtd) N R Lamahewage RWP RSP ndu Director General Civil Security Department, Major General C D Weerasuriya RWP RSP ndu Chief of Staff, Major General D G S Senarath Yapa RWP RSP ndu Deputy Chief of Staff and a distinguished gathering attended the seasonal arrangement together with their spouses.



Officers graduated in Logistics Staff Course



31 middle-grade Officers, including Army (26) Navy (02), Air Force (01), Bangladesh (01), Nepal (01) followed the one-year long Logistics Staff Course No. 8 (LSC) at Army School of Logistics (ASL) graduated on 9 December 2022 during a simple ceremony held at Colombo Defence Services College auditorium.

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army at the invitation of Brigadier E M M Fernando Hdmc Lsc AATO Commandant, Army School of Logistics attended the occasion as the Chief Guest. Commandant, Army School of Logistics and Major General C D Weerasuriya RWP RSP ndu Chief of Staff warmly welcomed him for the occasion. During the event, the Chief Guest also joined to distribute the symbolic parchments containing certificates to all 31 graduates amid applause. Major R A A Senaviratne of Sri Lanka Army Service Corps secured the 'Best Logistic Planner' award and Major N C C P Nawarathna of Sri Lanka Army Service Corps secured the 'Best Overall Performance in the LSC - No. 8' during the graduation ceremony. The official school journal 'Golden Log 2021- 2022' was also launched as one more formality in the agenda during the graduation.

Addressing the graduated Officers, Commander of the Army outlined the importance of following professional courses on Logistics and their application for the betterment of any organisation. The Logistics Staff Course (LSC), as the highest professional course in the fields of Logistics and Administration, grooms Officers of the Sri Lanka Army for the resolution of logistical and administrative issues, related to their profession and conduct of routine procedures.

Major General C D Weerasuriya RWP RSP ndu Chief of Staff, Major General D G S Senarath Yapa RWP RSP ndu Commandant, Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force, Major General D B S N Bothota RWP RSP USP psc Military Secretary, Major General A C Lamahewa WWV RWP RSP Director General Infantry, Major General G R R P Jayawardena RWP RSP ndu Quarter Master General, Major General S P A I M B Samarakoon Hdmc Lsc Commander, Army Logistic Command, Major General W M R R W W H J B Wanigasekara USP Master General Ordnance, Senior Officers, Officers, scholars and several other invitees of high profile participated in.

Army Commander awarded scholarships and NVQ certificates



The final certificate-awarding ceremony for 30 Army personnel who successfully qualified in the internationally-recognised National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Level 4 and 3 after following different technical courses at the Ranaviru Resource Centre (RRC) took place on 27 December 2022 at the Army Headquarters during a simple ceremony.

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army adding importance to the achievements joined the awarding ceremony as the Chief Guest. Brigadier S C Ekanayake RSP Director, Directorate of Rehabilitation and Brigadier R P A R P Rajapaksa RSP Director Directorate of Welfare jointly welcomed the Chief Guest to the occasion.

In line with the same event, the Directorate of Welfare at the Army Headquarters concurrently awarded scholarships to children of Army families who performed well in the recent G.C.E Advanced Level Examinations with the aim of supporting their continued university and higher education. The State Mortgage and Investment Bank, Dialog Axiata together with the Directorate of Welfare at the Army Headquarters extended their sponsorship for the project. 8 scholarships, each worth Rs. 120,000.00 for a period of one year also gave away in the same occasion.

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army, together with Major General C D Weerasuriya RWP RSP ndu Chief of Staff of the Army, Officers and Other Ranks, beneficiaries, representatives from Vocational Training Authority of Sri Lanka and State Mortgage and Investment Bank were present at the ceremony.

Chief of the Naval Staff of Indian Navy met Army Commander

The Chief of the Naval Staff of the Indian Navy, Admiral R Hari Kumar PVSM AVSM VSM ADC, called on Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army on 13 December 2022 at the Army Headquarters during his visit to promote existing bilateral relations and maritime co-operation further among nations in the region.

The Chief of Naval Staff of the Indian Navy was warmly welcomed to the Sri Lanka Army Headquarters presenting a Guard Turnout and a Guard of Honour. After introducing the Principal Staff Officers of the Army Headquarters, the Commander of the Army exchanged views on bilateral matters of concern to both the Sri Lanka Army and the Indian Navy including maritime security in the region. Major General S U M N Manage WWV RWP RSP psc Director General General Staff and Major General D B S N Bothota



RWP RSP USP psc Military Secretary were also associated with the discussion at the Commander's office.

Newly-appointed Navy Commander met Army Commander



The recently-appointed Commander of the Navy, Vice Admiral Priyantha Perera made his first courtesy call on Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army at the Army Headquarters in Sri Jayawardenepura on 28 December 2022. Colonel D K R Perera Commander, Army Headquarters Brigade formally welcomed the new Navy Commander amidst fluttering Army flags and ceremonial Guard Turnout. The cordial discussions held between the Commander of the Army and Commander of the Navy shared thoughts on national security concerns, the bonds of understanding and goodwill. At the end of the cordial meeting, a special memento was presented to the Navy Commander. Senior officers including Major General C D Weerasuriya RWP RSP ndu Chief of Staff, Major General S W M Fernando WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc, Military Secretary, Major General M G W W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc Adjutant General were also associated with the event.

Senegal's Defence Attaché met Army Commander

Colonel Abdoulaye Traore the Military, Naval and Air Force Attaché of the Embassy of Senegal in India, accredited to Sri Lanka, paid a courtesy call on Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army at the Army Headquarters on 9 December 2022.

During the interactions, Colonel Abdoulaye Traore exchanged views on bilateral cooperation and general matters of concern to both countries. The meeting also paved the way for both to further enhance goodwill and share knowledge on military matters. The brief but cordial meeting culminated with the exchange of mementoes.



Philippines' Defence Attaché exchanged views with Army Commander

Colonel Rolando Gomez of the Philippines Army, the Defence Attaché, Embassy of Republic of the Philippines in India, accredited to Sri Lanka and Maldives paid a courtesy call on H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army, on 9 December 2022 at the Army Headquarters.

Both exchanged views on general matters of concern while recalling bonds of goodwill, cooperation and understanding that prevail between the armed forces of both countries. They also discussed possibilities of further enhancing training programmes for Sri Lankan Army personnel as well as the participation of the armed forces of both countries in different exchange programmes. The formal meeting culminated with the exchange of souvenirs.



Commander addressed the DSCSC undergraduates



Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army addressed the undergraduates of Defence Services Command and Staff College Course No.16 delivering his customary 'Commander's Lecture' on 1 December 2022.

During the address, the Commander of the Army raised concern over National Security focusing on the evolution of 'Sri Lanka Army's Perception of National Security in the Last 72 Years', 'Present Complex Security Environment', 'Army's View on Security as per Present Context' and 'Future Planning of Sri Lanka Army' and presenting a comprehensive overview of security developments until 1971 after independence, including the period between 1971-1990, Post Humanitarian Operations up to date, challenges of non-traditional threats and anticipated challenges in the future.

149 undergraduates of DSCSC Course No.16, including 22 foreign Officers from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal and Zambia and Major General B K G M L Rodrigo RSP psc IG Commandant of DSCSC were present at the lecture.

New cafeteria at SLMA declared open



Improving the infrastructure facility of the Sri Lanka Military Academy- the prime organisation to groom the future Defenders of the Nation, "Red Lantern"- the state- of-art cafeteria and tailor shop was declared open on 17 December 2022 in line with the passing out parade of newly groomed Officer Cadets.

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army declared open the newly added infrastructure at the invitation of Major General W W H R R V M N D K B Niyangoda RWP RSP USP ndu psc Commandant, Sri Lanka Military Academy.

New Chief of Staff of the Army assumed office

The 61st Chief of Staff of the Army, Major General C D Weerasuriya RWP RSP ndu of the Sri Lanka Light Infantry Regiment assumed office during a simple ceremony amid religious observances, greetings and best wishes at the Army Headquarters at Sri Jayawardenepura on 1 December 2022.



The 61st Chief of Staff of the Army, Major General C D Weerasuriya RWP RSP ndu of the Sri Lanka Light Infantry Regiment assumed office during a simple ceremony amid religious observances, greetings and best wishes at the Army Headquarters at Sri Jayawardenepura on 1 December 2022.

Major General C D Weerasuriya RWP RSP ndu also holds the office of Colonel of the Regiment of Sri Lanka Light Infantry. He also served as the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army before he took over this appointment on the recommendation of the Commander of the Army.

Major General C D Weerasuriya RWP RSP ndu was born on 15 July 1968 in Colombo and had his education at Mahanama College, Kollupitiya where he excelled in sports and various other spheres. He joined the Army as an Officer Cadet on 27 October 1986 in the Intake-26 and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant into one of the most-respected Infantry Regiments in the Sri Lanka Army, the 1st Battalion of the Sri Lanka Light Infantry on 23 July 1987. He has counted over 36 years of reckonable service in the military career.

Besides the regimental appointments in every sphere, Major General C D Weerasuriya RWP RSP ndu has held numerous important appointments in command and staff capacities. He commanded one of the reputed Infantry Battalions, 4th Battalion of the Sri Lanka Light Infantry Regiment during the period of very high-intensity counter-insurgency operations.

The Senior Officer has been decorated with the 'Rana Wickrama Padakkama' (RWP) and 'Rana Sura Padakkama' (RSP) in recognition of gallantry, invaluable and selfless dedication in the face of enemy in the battlefield. A representative gathering of Senior Officers, including the Commandant, Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force, Principal Staff Officers and Directors also attended to extend best wishes to him at the occasion.

New SLLI Colonel of the Regiment assumed office



Major General C D Weerasuriya RWP RSP ndu the newly-appointed Chief of Staff of the Army took over duties amidst religious blessings as the 15th Colonel of the Regiment of Sri Lanka Light Infantry (SLLI) on 3 December 2022 during a simple ceremony.



Inspection visit of new COS in the SFHQ (East)



Major General C D Weerasuriya RWP RSP ndu newly-appointed Chief of Staff (COS) of the Sri Lanka Army, making his first visit to the East after assumption of his new responsibilities arrived at the Security Force Headquarters (East) at Welikanda in order to conduct the final phase of the routine administrative inspection on 12 December 2022.

Major General S R K Hettiarachchi RWP RSP USP ndu psc Commander, Security Force (East) warmly welcomed the Chief of Staff to the Headquarters. Addressing the troops, the Chief of Staff of the Army stressed the importance of conducting an annual administrative inspection to overcome all issues, related to administrative issues in the Army.

The General Officers Commanding of respective Divisions, Commander, Forward Maintenance Area Headquarters (East), together with Directors and Staff Officers of the Army Headquarters, Commandant, Combat Training School in Ampara, all Brigade Commanders, Staff Officers of the Security Force Headquarters (East) took part in the administrative inspection discussions.



New Deputy Chief of Staff took over duties

Major General D G S Senarathya RWP RSP ndu of the Special Forces, assumed the office as the Deputy Chief of Staff (DCOS), the 3rd most senior appointment of the Sri Lanka Army on 14 December 2022 at the Army Headquarters amidst the chanting of 'Seth Pirith'.

Prior to this new appointment, Major General D G S Senarathya RWP RSP ndu has been serving as the Commandant of Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force Headquarters at Kosgama. Senior Officers, Staff Officers at the office of the Deputy Chief of Staff (DCOS) and Other Ranks joined the occasion.

He joined the Sri Lanka Army as an Officer Cadet on 16 March 1987 under Intake No. 27. Upon successful completion of the basic military training at the Sri Lanka Army Military Academy, Diyatalawa, he was commissioned in the rank of Second Lieutenant and was posted to the Gajaba Regiment (GR). Throughout his military career, he has served in Command, Staff, and Instructional appointments exemplifying his extraordinary capacities in respective appointments in the Sri Lanka Army. He served as the Commander of Security Force (West) and Jaffna before he took over as the Commandant of the Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force, prior to his assumption as the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army.



New Commandant of SLAVF assumed duties



Major General W A S S Wanasinghe RSP USP ndu assumed duties as the 50th Commandant of the Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force (SLAVF), amidst religious blessings and military formalities, conducted at the Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force Headquarters premises at Seethawaka, Kosgama on 22 December 2022. The new Commandant of Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force was warmly welcomed offering him a colourful Guard Turnout and a Guard of Honour. Addressing the gathering the new Commandant of Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force emphasised the importance of improving productivity assuring effective service to the organisation and appreciated the service of past Commandants of Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Service, differently-abled and deceased War Heroes.

Major General W A S S Wanasinghe RWP RSP ndu Colonel Commandant of the Sri Lanka Artillery Regiment, prior to this appointment served as the Commander, Security Force (Mullaitivu).

Pakistan's High Commissioner visited 1 Corps



The High Commissioner of Pakistan to Sri Lanka, Major General (Retd) Umar Farooq Burki, Hilal-Hi-Imtiaz (Military) paid a courtesy visit to the Headquarters 1 Corps, Kilinochchi on 24 November 2022 and he was warmly welcomed by Major General A K G K U Gnanaratne ndc psc Commander, 1 Corps.

Commander 1 Corps briefed the role of maintaining high operational readiness in internal security arrangements such as disaster relief situations maintaining a close connection with government mechanisms to the High Commissioner of Pakistan. Upon conclusion, symbolic mementoes were exchanged to mark a remarkable meeting.

Sri Lanka Armoured Corps celebrated its 67th Anniversary



The Sri Lanka Armoured Corps (SLAC) Regiment celebrated its 67th anniversary with a series of events on 15 December 2022. Major General D B S N Bothota RWP RSP USP psc Colonel Commandant Sri Lanka Armoured Corps and Military Secretary graced the event as the Chief Guest. 10 scholarships and 10 book sets were also distributed among most deserving Sri Lanka Armoured Corps families as part of the anniversary programme.

The anniversary event culminated with an all-rank lunch in the premises. Mrs. Lali Kobbekaduwa, and many reputed retired members of the Cavalry family and their spouses, Dr. Mrs. Harshini Bothota Chairperson of Sri Lanka Armoured Corps Seva Vanitha Branch, senior Officers/Officers and Other Ranks participated in this anniversary project.



New House for a resident in Puloly, Point Pedro

Extending the humanistic mission ahead, troops of 551 Infantry Brigade erected a new house for for Ms. Jayarupan Nandani in Puloly (West), Point Pedro and vested it on 22 November 2022 to the beneficiaries in the presence of Major General W M G C S B Wijayasundara RSP USP ndu Commander, Security Force (Jaffna).

Mrs. Sheila Emmanuel extended the financial generosity through the coordination of Major General Ravi Rathnasingham (Retd) for the house and troops of 551 Infantry Brigade extended the required manpower and technical expertise for the house. The project came into reality under the conceptual layout of Commander, Security Force (Jaffna) and the mediation of General Officer Commanding, 55 Infantry division. Commander, 551 Infantry Brigade supervised the project.

Major General W M G C S B Wijayasundara RSP USP ndu Commander, Security Force (Jaffna), Major General M K U P Gunaratne RSP ndu psc General Officer Commanding, 55 Infantry Division and Brigadier D C A Wickramasinghe USP USACGSC Commander 551 Brigade, Officers and Other Ranks attended the house warming ceremony.



New Army welfare shop at Security Force Headquarters (Jaffna)



The Army Welfare Shop of Security Force Headquarters (Jaffna) relocated at Transit Camp, Kankasanthurei and warmed to the troops by Major General W M G C S B Wijayasundara RSP USP ndu Commander, Security Force (Jaffna) on 15 November 2022 with the purpose to facilitate the members of the Sri Lanka Army. The relocation process became a reality within a short span of time with the contribution of the troops of 10th Battalion Field Engineer Regiment and 5th Battalion Engineer Services Regiment under the supervision of their Commanding Officers. Senior Officers including Brigadier (Admin/Quartering) and Other Ranks witnessed the opening ceremony. The welfare shop was relocated with the aim of facilitating the military personnel as well as civil society.



Army troop's generosity made civilian's housing dream a reality



A fully fledged house built on 40 perches of government owned land allocated by Vavuniya Divisional Secretary Mr. N Kamaladasan upon the instructions of Commander, Security Force (Wanni) vested in Ms. Shantha and her family in Rasendrakulam, Vavuniya on 9 December 2022.

Major General C D Ranasinghe RWP RSP Commander Security Force (Wanni) graced the event as the Chief Guest to the occasion, and warmed the house to the beneficiary bringing a new hope for the beneficiary.

General Officer Commanding 56 Infantry Division, Brigade Commanders of the 561, 562, and 563 Infantry Brigades, Commanding Officers, Officers, Mr. N. Kamaladasan Divisional Secretary Vavuniya Division, beneficiaries' relatives and many distinguished guests attended this ceremony.

Defence Attaches and Advisors visited Security Force Headquarters (Wanni)

Defence Attachés and Advisors from Australia, China, Canada, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the United Kingdom, and the United States engaged in a familiarisation visit to Security Force Headquarters (Wanni) on 13 December 2022 and met the Major General C D Ranasinghe RWP RSP Commander Security Force (Wanni). The Commander Security Force (Wanni) enlightened them on the responsibilities and role of civil-military cooperation during the friendly interactions.



Security Force (East) gifted a new house to a needy family



Troops of 3rd Corps of Engineer Services, 5th Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps, 3rd Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps and 3rd Sri Lanka Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Regiments build a new house for homeless Mr. K Sunil at Erigeoya a resident in Habarana following the conceptual layout of Major General S R K Hettiarchchi RWP RSP ndu psc Commander, Security Force (East) and warmed to the beneficiary on 17 December 2022.

Mr. Dhanushka – a businessman in Australia, volunteered to sponsor the entire project and manpower assistance. Major General M W T C Mettananda USP Commander, Forward Maintenance Area (East) graced the event as the Chief Guest and warmed the house key to the beneficiary.

Senior Officers including Commander, Forward Maintenance Area (East), Commanding Officers of 3rd Corps of Engineer Services, 5th Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps and 3rd Sri Lanka Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Regiments, Officers and Other Ranks were present the housewarming ceremony.



Strength from Army to cross the hurdles of life

Considering present economic constraints, Security Force Headquarters (Mullaitivu) distributed nutrients for 50 pregnant women and dry rations to the value of Rs 10,000.00 each and 200 low-income group families and dry ration packs worth of Rs 15,000.00 each, along with a donation of 50 metal spade blades to the farmers in the area on 28 November 2022 under the patronage of Major General W A S S Wanasinghe RWP RSP ndu Commander, Security Force (Mullaitivu).

Troops of the 5 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment and the 19 Gemunu Watch of the 593 Infantry Brigade organised the event under the supervision of their Commanding Officers with the financial generosity of 'Sarana' Foundation. Major General R M M Ranasinghe WWV RSP General Officer Commanding, 59 Infantry Division and Brigadier K M P S B Kulatunga Commander, 593 Infantry Brigade, Venerable Huriyagaswewa Sadhdhawas Thero, Venerable Thissaputta Thero, Chief incumbent at Kokilai Sri Sambodhi Viharaya, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks were associated with the event.

Awareness programme on Human Rights at Security Forces Headquarters (West)



In line with World Human Rights Day (10 December 2022), an awareness programme on Human Rights was organised at Security Forces Headquarters (West) on 09 December 2022 at the Regimental Headquarters of Sri Lanka Light Infantry lecture hall, Army Cantonment, Panagoda.

The awareness programme held under two stages under the patronage of Brigadier T C K Peiris RWP RSP Director of Directorate of Human Rights & Humanitarian Law. Ms. Menaka Herath Director Education and Special Programmes and Ms. Sulari Liyanagama Director of Inquiries & Investigations conducted the sessions.

Fundamental Rights, Children's rights, Prisoners' rights, Labour rights/ workers' rights were deeply discussed during these lectures. 50 Officers and 150 Other Ranks in the 14 Infantry Area of Responsibility participated in these lectures.



SFHQ (West) distributed free milk powder packets



Troops of Security Force Headquarters (West) donated a total of 1210 milk powder packets among the low-income families in Colombo on 21 December 2022. 605 families selected in cooperation with Grama Niladhari officials in respective area benefited from the programme.

Fonterra Brands Lanka Company Ltd. extended the financial generosity for the charity work. Brigadier K V N P Premaratne RSP USP psc Brigadier General Staff, Security Force Headquarters (West) and District Coordinator for Green Agriculture Operation Centre took part in the project.

New Security Force (Central) Commander visited under command formation



Major General W R M A Rathnayake RWP RSP ndu the recently appointed Commander, Security Force (Central), visited to under command formations in his area of responsibility on 2 and 3 December 2022. He inspected the newly constructed Army Hospital in Palkelele, 4 and 5 Sri Lanka Light Infantry Regiments, detachments at Ukuwela, Bowathenna and Moragahakanda hydropower plants during his visit. Commander, Forward Maintenance Area (Central), Commander, 111 Infantry Brigade were associated with the visit.



Troops of 111 Infantry Brigade controlled the fire at a house



Troops of 111 Infantry Brigade assisted to cease the fire erupted at a residence at Sri Sangaraja Mawatha in Kandy on 17 December 2022. The troops of 2 (Volunteer) Sri Lanka Singha Regiment and 10 Gajaba Regiment together with the members of the Kandy Police controlled the fire and rescued the victims responding the disaster.

12 Infantry Division provided lunch to school children



With the financial generosity extended by Sithmeera Construction, 12 Infantry Division offered lunch and uniforms for 475 students of M/Detagamuwa Primary School on 6 December 2022. Major General G M N Perera RWP RSP USP ndc General Officer Commanding, 12 Infantry Division, Commanding Officer and Other Ranks of 3 Sri Lanka National Guard, Staff of Sithmeera Constructions participated in the charity event.

62 Infantry Division distributed school accessories for students



Following the conceptual layout of the General Officer Commanding, 62 Infantry Division, a programme to distribute school accessories and dry rations among students was held at M/ Ahatugaswewa Maha Vidyalaya on 25 November 2022. S N Formans Institute extended the financial generosity for the charity event organised by Commanding Officer, 9 Gajaba Regiment. Each student received school accessories worth Rs. 8000.00 and dry rations worth of Rs.3500.00. 50 students benefited from the programme.

2 (Volunteer) Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment distributed dry rations among villagers



2 (Volunteer) Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment distributed 100 dry rations among the poverty-stricken people in the Lindawewa village in Medawachchiya Divisional Secretary Division on 26 November 2022. Venerable Sumana Thero provided much-needed financial generosity through the coordination of Mr. Sunil Wijewardhana of Sarana Buddhist Charity Organisation in Kadawata. Major R M K B Rathnayaka RSP Commanding Officer, 2 (Volunteer) Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment, Officers, and Other Ranks participated in the event.

61 Infantry Division's New GOC visited under command formations



Major General H M U Herath RWP RSP USP Hdmc psc newly-appointed General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the 61 Infantry Division, made his maiden visit to the 611 Infantry Brigade and 8 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment (8 SLSR) co-located at Beragala, Kegalle on 7 December 2022.

Brigadier W M S N Aragoda RWP RSP USP Commander, 611 Infantry Brigade visited warmly welcomed the General Officer Commanding of the 61 Infantry Division following the military formalities and explained the affairs in the Area of Responsibility in brief. Commanding Officers of 8 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment and 8 Sri Lanka Gemunu Watch, Officers and Other Ranks were associated with the event.

Foundation stone laid for another new house



Under the new phase of community welfare project, foundation stone laid for the new house to be erected for Mr. Ranushan on 9 December 2022 under the guidance of 513 Infantry Brigade and instructions of General Officer Commanding, 51 Infantry Division. 11 Sri Lanka Light Infantry Regiment extended the manpower and technical expertise for the construction and Mr. Sinnadureyi Siththiwele and members of Lion's Club - Modara provided the much needed financial generosity for the task. In line with the same event dry rotations distribution was also held under the patronage of Major General W S M N Fernando WWV RWP RSP USP ndu psc General Officer Commanding, 51 Infantry Division. Brigadier M R Rashik RSP Commander, 513 Infantry Brigade, Other Ranks also participated in the charity event.



A shelter from Sri Lanka Army

Following the instructions of General Officer Commanding of 55 Infantry Division, a new house was erected for Sergeant Bandaranayake who is serving as a clerk of the 55 Infantry Division on 8 December 2022. Mr. Wish Nadarajah in Canada extended his financial generosity to construct the house donating 1.3 million. Major General M K U G Gunaratne RSP ndu IG General Officer Commanding, 55 Infantry Division warmed the house to the beneficiary amid the troops and relatives of the beneficiary.

Army introduces Air Badminton to Mallavi schools for the first time



17 (Volunteer) Sri Lanka Light Infantry troops of the 651 Infantry Brigade constructed two badminton courts for Thunukkai Maha Vidyalaya and Terankandal Maha Vidyalaya students for the first time introducing outdoor-based Air Badminton for the students interested in. This was introduced to the schools in the area as per conceptual guidelines of Major General E A D P Edirisinghe psc General Officer Commanding 65 Infantry Division.

Zonal Education Director for Mankulam, principals, teachers, Brigade Commander, 651 Infantry Brigade, Commanding Officer, 17 (Volunteer) Sri Lanka Light Infantry and a large gathering of students were present at the event.

Army War College concluded its first symposium



The Army War College (AWC) successfully concluded its first Symposium for Battalion Commanders in the ranks of Lieutenant Colonel under the theme 'Civil-Military Relations and Military Professionalism'.

The two-day symposium that aimed at broadening the knowledge on specific subject areas, conducted from 15 to 16 December 2022 via Zoom platform with the participation of 400 military personnel serving at 200 different locations across the country. Sessions focused on 'Conceptual and Theoretical Perspectives on Civil-military Relations' and 'Civil-military Relations in a Complex Security Landscape: 'Identifying and Bridging Gaps', 'Mechanisms for Democratic Civilian Control over Military', 'Representation of Military in Sri Lankan Society' and 'Commitment of Military Commanders in Civil-military Relations in the Local Context'.

651 Infantry Brigade Troops initiated an income-generating project for school



With the objective of generating a source of income for development of the Kaneshapuram Primary School at Wellankulam 651 Infantry Brigade troops planted 100 hybrid cashew saplings in the school compound on 20 December 2022.

Commander, 651 Infantry Brigade launched the inspiring project under the guidance of General Officer Commanding (GOC), 65 Infantry Division with the close collaboration of Mr. R Sanjeevan, Kilinochchi District Divisional Manager of Sri Lanka Cashew Corporation.

1 Sri Lanka Rifle Corps Battalion Training Course ended



The 1 Sri Lanka Rifle Corps (SLRC) culminated its Battalion Training Course (BTC) at Maduru Oya Army Training School (ATS) on 19 December 2022. The Battalion Course, started on 01 November 2022 with the aim to refresh the knowledge pertaining to military subjects, comprised of basic military tactics, map-reading, counter insurgency operations, internal security, fighting in built-up area, Civil Law, Military Law, firing, etc. Major C C Mudannayake was awarded as Best Student, Corporal Ranthilaka DM was awarded as Best Shooter and Rifle Soldier Dissanayake DMC was awarded as Best in physical during the event. Major General S Kasthurimudali RSP psc Commandant, Army Training School delivered the final remarks during the closing ceremony. 09 SLRC Officers and 245 Other Ranks participated in the course.

211 Infantry Brigade gifted dry ration packs for villagers

211 Infantry Brigade under command to 21 Infantry Division took steps to distribute 200 dry ration packs and 50 metal spade blades used for agricultural purposes among selected beneficiaries on 26 December 2022 in order to alleviate the hardships of farming communities and low-income families in remote Lindawewa and Kapirikgama areas in Medawachchiya.

The event was held in Kapirikgama Primary School premises with the participation of Commanding Officer of 2 (Volunteer) Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment, Second In Command of 14 Sri Lanka

Artillery, Civil Affairs Officer of the 211 Infantry Brigade and troops. Singapore-based Buddhist monk, Venerable Sumana Thero and Mrs. Sunil Wijayawardene, the President, 'Sarana' foundation in Kadawatha came forward to sponsor the supplies.



231 Infantry Brigade provided essentials to children with special needs



Troops of 231 Infantry Brigade with sponsorship provided by a Colombo-based philanthropist, Mrs. Mihiri De Silva gifted gift packs of essentials and a delicious lunch to children with special needs, resident at 'Ozanam' Children's Orphanage in Batticaloa on 1 December 2022. After distribution of gift packs to all children with special needs, troops provided a sumptuous lunch to all of them as part of the 231 Infantry Brigade's community-oriented projects.

Brigade Commander of the 231 Infantry Brigade together with the donor, Officers and the Other Ranks of joined the arrangement.

8 VIR celebrated its 29th Anniversary



8 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment established in Jeewanagar, Maar celebrated its 29th anniversary on 3 December 2022. During the series of anniversary events, the troops offered a Guard Turnout to Major G N P R Silva RWP RSP psc Commanding Officer, 8 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment. The Commanding Officer addressed the troops and participated in all ranks lunch. A softball cricket tournament, dry ration distribution for 25 families and blood donation were also held on 4 December 2022 in line with the anniversary celebrations.

Advanced HR & IHL course successfully culminated



The certificate-awarding ceremony of the Advanced Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law at the Institute of Peacekeeping Support Operations Training Sri Lanka (IPSOTSL) was held on 5 December 2022 under the patronage of Brigadier T C K Peiris RWP RSP Director, Directorate of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law.

The course, began on 8 November 2022 under the supervision of the Directorate of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law with the participation of 27 Officers and 33 Other Ranks of the tri-services and the Police. Major H K P M Hettiarachchi of Sri Lanka Armoured Corps was awarded the Best Officer certificate in the course and Sergeant K P D H Dayanga of Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps was adjudged the best Other Rank in the Course.

191 Soldiers at qualified as Instructors



A new batch of 191 more soldiers passed out as instructors on 8 December 2022 from Combat Training School (CTS) Ampara.

As per the guidelines given by Commander of the Army, Combat Training School increased the numbers, absorbed to train as instructors with the intention of improving the professional standards of the soldiers who would subsequently conduct different ground level courses for new recruits and fellow-soldiers.

The Method of Instruction Course No. 61, was conducted for a period of 18 days from 21 November 2022 to 08 December 2022. Brigadier R P Munipura RWP RSP Commandant, Combat Training School graced the certificate awarding ceremony. Corporal Sunil Shantha TM of 7 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment was awarded a trophy and a separate special certificate at the awarding ceremony.

59 Infantry Division celebrated its 15th Anniversary



59 Infantry Division celebrated its 15th anniversary on 1 December 2022 at the 59 Infantry Division Headquarters following a series of events. A Bodhi Pooja was held invoking the blessings for the Sri Lanka Army and the country in line with the anniversary. Major General R M M Ranasinghe WWV RWP RSP General Officer Commanding, 59 Infantry Division addressed the troops. Anniversary celebrations concluded with an eye-catching musical show held with the participation of Major General J P C Peris RWP RSP ndu General Officer Commanding, 57 Infantry Division.

UNIFIL Dy Force Commander met Sri Lankan Peacekeepers in Lebanon



Brigadier General Chok Bahadur Dhkal the newly appointed Deputy Force Commander (DFC) of the United Nations Interim Force In Lebanon (UNIFIL) paid a courtesy visit to the Sri Lanka Force Protection Company (FPC) on 12 December 2022 after his assumption of new responsibilities in the UNIFIL.

Lieutenant Colonel S M D N Samarakoon Officer Commanding of the Sri Lanka Force Protection Company in Lebanon warmly welcomed him with an oriental dancing group of the Sri Lanka Army.

During the visit, the Officer Commander of FPC briefed the DFC on the role and tasks pertaining to the Sri Lankan Peacekeepers in Lebanon before he had a close look at the Armoured Personnel Carrier section and the K-9 special military dog section during a field visit.

Special lunch for Elders' Home in Kaithady



Following the mediation of Major General K P S S Fernaando RSP ndu General Officer Commanding, 52 Infantry Division a delicious lunch provided for 35 residents at Blind Elders' Home in Kaithady on 22 November 2022. Officers and Other Ranks of 52 Infantry Division also joined the charity event.

532 Infantry Brigade troops gifted wheelchairs & incentives to students



In a gesture of goodwill and understanding, the 532 Infantry Brigade troops gifted wheelchairs and a stock of school equipment for two physically-handicapped students in Samanalathenna and Ehalagama villages in Dehiattakandiya on 5 December 2022. Mrs Gaya Meewella provided the generous sponsorship for the task. Commander, 532 Infantry Brigade and troops visited the residence of the physically-handicapped students and made the donation.

64 Infantry Division donated blood to A'pura patients on Anniversary day



Troops of 64 Infantry Division marked their anniversary commemoration donating blood to fulfill the requirement of Blood Bank at Anuradhapura Hospital on 8 December 2022 in line with its 14th anniversary. This life-saving project was planned on the instructions of General Officer Commanding, 64 Infantry Division, and Civil Affairs Officer, 64 Infantry Division. Medical team of 10 members, including a Medical Officer assisted the blood donation.

IPSOTSL completed its UNMOC Course No. 01

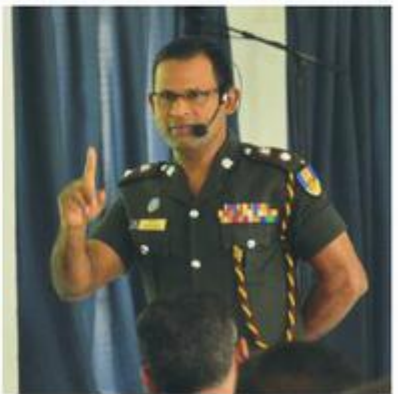


The certificate-awarding ceremony of the United Nations Military Observer Course No 01 (UNMOC) 2022 was held at the Institute of Peacekeeping Support Operations Training Sri Lanka (IPSOTSL) on 16 December 2022. The Course was conducted from 28 November to 16 December 2022 at IPSOTSL with the participation of 37 Student Officers of the Armed Forces.

The IPSOTSL course mainly focused on the prime responsibilities that a military observer is expected to perform and it has been designed to match with guidelines provided by the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (UNDPKO). Brigadier C A Rajapaksha RSP Commandant, Institute of Peacekeeping Support Operations Training Sri Lanka graced the event as the Chief Guest for the occasion. Officers participated in the ceremony.



Workshops on war literature



Lieutenant Colonel E A A Chaminda Chief Editor of the 'Ranaviruwa' magazine of the Directorate of Psychological Operations conducted a thought-provoking war literature lectures at Battalion Training School-Katukeliyawa, Regimental Headquarters- Sri Lanka Signal Corps, Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Training School-Thisawewa and Mechanised Infantry Training Centre-Manik farm in the month December 2022.

Large gathering of Officers and Other Ranks participated in these educative lecture held flashing the untold gallantries of War Heroes enthusiastically, screening the related videos of the operations.

Water purification machine vested in Public



17 Sri Lanka National Guard installed a water purification machine for public fulfilling a long standing requirement of civil community in Kumburu Piddy area on 9 December 2022. Bodyline Apparels- Horana extended financial generosity for the charity event. Venerable Maha Sangha of Kumburu Piddy Temple, Maulavi of Jumma Masjid – Irakkamum and Staff of the Bodyline Apparels- Horana participated in the warming ceremony.

ASVU 'Bodhi Pooja' invoked blessings for the upcoming New Year



The Army Seva Vanitha Unit organised a 'Bodhi Pooja' on 22 December 2022 at Sri Naga Viharaya in Kotte with the intention of blessing the forthcoming New Year-2023 under the guidance of Mrs. Janaki Liyanage President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit.

The Bodhi Pooja also invoked blessings on all ranks in service, retired and all the people in Sri Lanka. In line with the same event, fallen War Heroes were commemorated and injured War Heroes were blessed for speedy recovery. Venerable Waturawila Siri Sujatha Thero, Incumbent at Kotte Sri Naga Viharaya and Dr. Kegalle Pannananda Thero, a lecturer at Subadrarama Piriven Viharaya conducted the Bodhi Pooja.

A representative gathering of over 250 Officers and Other Ranks participated in the programme together with Mrs. Janaki Liyanage President, and Colonel Coordinating of Army Seva Vanitha Unit.

ASVU President interacted with 'Abhimansala-1' War Heroes



Mrs. Janaki Liyanage the President of the Gajaba Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch and President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit paid a visit to the 'Abimansala-1' Wellness Center in Anuradhapura on 30 November 2022. The President of the Gajaba Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch and President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit had a cordial interaction with resident War Heroes and donated gift parcels with essential sanitary items including 10 Water Bubbler Dispensers. Brigadier H T W Vidyananda RWP RSP USP Centre Commandant, Gajaba Regiment also joined the occasion.

President of Army Seva Vanitha Unit visited National Institute of Mental Health



Mrs. Janaki Liyanage President of Army Seva Vanitha Unit visited National Institute of Mental Health on account of the festive season on 19 December 2022. The friendly interaction included a delicious lunch, donation of essential items and a musical event. After a while, christmas presents were distributed before offering a delicious lunch. President of Army Seva Vanitha Unit also donated essential items for the patients.

Also, the Ward No. 5 of the National Institute of Mental Health was painted and refurbished prior to the event and the washroom was also renovated after fixing new fittings.

Senior Army Seva Vanitha Unit members including Mrs. Samanthi Senarath Yapa, Mrs. Chama Wanasinghe, Mrs. Kumudu Manage, Mrs. Ruveena Meththananda, Mrs. HG Swarnalatha and Colonel Coordinating of Army Seva Vanitha Unit, Officers and Other Ranks participated in this project.

President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit visited Diyatalawa



Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, the President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit visited the "Shop of the Garrison" at Diyatalawa on 16 December 2022 and granted directions for the areas to improve further for better service.

Annual concert of Minneriya 'Viru Kekulu' pre-school

The annual concert of Army Seva Vanitha Unit-managed 'Viru Kekulu' pre-school at Minneriya was held on 1 December 2022 at "Pulathisipura Soorya Mandapaya" at Giritale Central College.

Mrs. Janaki Liyanage President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU) and Chairperson of Gajaba Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch graced the occasion as the Chief Guest with Major General S R K Hettiarachchi RWP RSP USP ndu psc Commander Security Forces (East), Major General M W T C Meththananda USP Commander, Forward Maintenance Area (East). Parents of the children, and members of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit also witnessed the event.



President of Army Seva Vanitha Unit visited 'Viru Kekulu', Diyatalawa



Mrs. Janaki Liyanage President of Army Seva Vanitha Unit and Chairperson of Sri Lanka Gajaba Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch and Sri Lanka National Guard Seva Vanitha Branch visited the Army Seva Vanitha Unit managed Viru Kekulu pre-school in Diyatalawa on 16 December 2022. Mrs. Udeni Jayarathne and two kids of the pre-school warmly welcomed the Chief Guest. The Chief Guest then interacted with kids and members of Army Seva Vanitha Unit. During the interactions, President of Army Seva Vanitha Unit proposed areas needed to be improved and discussed matters related to the pre-school. Commander, Security Force (Central), Senior Officers, Officers and teachers were also present at the time of the visit.

ASVU President visited SLAGSC Fair and a book donation programme



Mrs. Janaki Liyanage President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit visited Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch organised a fair and book donation programme on 23 December 2022 at Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps Regimental Headquarters ground. In line with the same event, school bags, books and stationaries for the children of Grade 1 to 5 also distributed under the guidance of the Mrs. Ruvina Mettananda President Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch.

Major General M W T C Mettananda USP ndc Colonel Commandant, Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps, Senior Officers and members of Seva Vanitha Branch were present at the event.

Sri Lanka Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch donated books for students

The Sri Lanka Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch and Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps Seva Vanitha Branch joined hands together to organise a book donation programme for 230 children of serving civil staff families of the Sri Lanka Engineers and Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps to coincide with the 7th edition of the "Ata-Hitha 2022" island-wide project on 13 December at Mattegoda Sri Lanka Engineers camp auditorium.

Mrs. Shammi Jayawardena,



Chairperson of the Sri Lanka Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch and Major General M K Jayawardena Colonel Commandant of the Sri Lanka Engineers as Chief Guests. 230 students benefited from the programme.

Sri Lanka Signal Corps Seva Vanitha Branch visited patients at Mulleriyawa



Members of the Sri Lanka Signal Corps Seva Vanitha Branch visited the ward No. 5 of the National Institute of Mental Health at Mulleriyawa on a suggestion, made by Mrs. Sashika Herath Chairperson, Seva Vanitha Branch of the Sri Lanka Signal Corps on 11 November 2022 and cleaned the premises offering lunch for the resident patients.

Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch visited 'Abhimansala' War Heroes

The Chairperson of the Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch Mrs. Omila Jayawardena with Seva Vanitha members paid a visit to the 'Abhimansala-1' wellness resort in Anuradhapura on 26 November 2022 with the intention of looking into the well-being of differently-abled War Heroes residing at this wellness resort.

On this occasion, Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch members distributed gift parcels and essential sanitary equipment among 25 differently abled War Heroes and joined a table of refreshments. In addition, 10 towel racks along with 10 Emergency LED electric bulbs were donated for the usage of 'Abhimansala -1' residents at the same occasion.



The Centre Commandant of the Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment, Regimental Headquarters and the Commanding Officer of the Regimental Headquarters Battalion, Officers and 15 Senior members of the Seva Vanitha Branch of the Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment joined the visit.

Generous donation from Gemunu Watch Seva Vanitha Branch

Members of Gemunu Watch Seva Vanitha Branch together with Mrs. Ruwini Lamahewa the Chairperson of Gemunu Watch Seva Vanitha Branch donated gift parcels for the resident War Heroes of Abhimansala -II, Kamburupitiya. Also, new bamboo panels were donated to the Abhimansala -II authority to replace the expired bamboo panels on the premises. In line with the same event, a new wheelchair was donated to S/422385 Sergeant Gamage GPRM a differently-abled War Hero of Gemunu Watch upon the request of the Chairperson and members of Gemunu Watch Seva Vanitha Branch on 21 December 2022.



Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch visited National Institute of Mental Health



Members of Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch made a visit to the Army Seva Vanitha Unit-managed ward at National Institute of Mental Health at Mulleriyawa on 27 November 2022. The Commanding Officer of the Headquarters Battalion of Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment participated in the visit and lunch was also provided for resident patients.

Special Forces Seva Vanitha Branch gifted books among students of soldiers

Books and stationeries, worth over Rs. 4 million were distributed among school-going children of soldiers and civil staff who are serving the Special Forces Regiment on 19 December 2022 at the Special Forces Regimental Centre in Naula. Mrs. Nayani Samanthi Senarath Yapa Chairperson, Special Forces Seva Vanitha Branch implemented the initiative.

Mr. Madhawa Thenuwara, a generous entrepreneur and his spouse, Mrs. Sandya Thenuwara extended the generous sponsorship for the charity event. Major General D G S Senarathya RWP RSP ndu

Deputy Chief of Staff (DCOS) of the Army and Colonel of the Regiment and the Chairperson, Special Forces Seva Vanitha Branch, graced the event as Chief Guests. Senior Officers, Officers, Other Ranks and beneficiaries were present at the event.



Military Intelligence Corps Seva Vanitha Branch provided monthly treats to Elders' Home



The Military Intelligence Corps Seva Vanitha Branch extended its monthly treat to elders at Warusavithana Elders' Home at Polwatta, Ambalangoda with sponsorship provided by Mrs. Ilma Majeed a senior member of the Military Intelligence Corps Seva Vanitha Branch. Every month, those Seva Vanitha ladies conduct this social service project as guided by Mrs. Manori Sallay Chairperson of Military Intelligence Corps Seva Vanitha Branch.

Corps of Engineer Services Seva Vanitha Branch gifted school accessories to students



68 school students, belonging to families of the Corps of Engineer Services (CES) received scholarships and gift packs containing essential school accessories and equipment during the Annual General Meeting of the Corps of Engineer Services Seva Vanitha Branch on 10 December 2022. Mrs. Deepika Prashanthi Chandrasena Chairperson, Corps of Engineer Services Seva Vanitha Branch patronaged the charity event attending as the the Chief Guest. Accordingly, 68 students who successfully got through their scholarship exam in the Grade 5 received scholarships.

Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch helped families of civil employees

The Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch intending to relieve the economic hardships of civil employees of the 5 Sri Lanka Army Service Corps School at Tissawewa distributed stock of school accessories inclusive of books among students of those families on 26 November 2022. Mrs. Thushari Wanigasekera Chairperson of the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch joined the distribution of those accessories at the school premises. In the meantime, the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch donated spectacles to needy children and the wives of civil employees. Mrs. Thushari Wanigasekera attended the occasion as the Chief Guest.



X-mass Carols from Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps



Spreading the message of peace, X-mass Carols staged at Sri Lanka Army Hospital, Narahenpita on 15 December 2022. The event was organised by Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps Seva Vanitha Branch, Directorate of Sri Lanka Army Medical Management and Maintenance and Sri Lanka Army Hospital. The President of Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps Seva Vanitha Branch and Director General of Sri Lanka Army Medical Services and Brigadier P A C Fernando USP Director General Army Health Services, Officers and Other Ranks participated in the event.

Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps Seva Vanitha Branch visited Mihindu Seth Medura



Mrs. Bandunee Margaret Ranasin Ranawaka the President, Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps Seva Vanitha Branch together with the ladies visited the War Heroes at Mihindu Seth Medura, wellness resort at Attidiya on 10 December 2022 with the intention of looking into their well-being. The members of Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps Seva Vanitha Branch distributed gift parcels among those differently abled War Heroes and gifted a LED TV set to the management of the 'Mihindu Seth Medura'. Several Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks of the Regimental Headquarters of the Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps took part in the project.

Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch distributed gifts

Mrs. Nandani Samarakoon Chairperson, Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch distributed school accessories, worth of Rs. 200,000.00 among 25 children on 18 November 2022. The distribution was held with the objective to assist the education of children, belonging to civil employees in the 6 Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers camp in Mullaitivu and 7 Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers camp in Kilinochchi.



Mobile agri sale unit moved into a permanent stall

The newly opened mobile sale of Army-produced agri products at a subsidised price near the Army Headquarters on 1 December 2022 upon the instructions of Commander of the Army moved into a permanent stall widening its services for all 5 days.

Director Finance Management Major General W B S M Abeysekara RSP USP Colonel Commandant of Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock, and Mrs. Shanthi Abesekara the President of Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch graced the inaugural occasion as the Chief Guests. The new welfare stall at vehicle park supplies farm-produced vegetables, grains and dairy products to all those serving the Army Headquarters in an attempt to provide relief to all affected due to economic constraints.



Counselling guidance for a better life



Lieutenant Colonel R M H P K Rathnayaka (GR) General Staff Officer 1, Directorate of Psychological Operations conducted another lecture at Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force Headquarters on 28 December 2022 under the theme of "Psychological Guidance for Satisfied Soldiers". This series of lectures organised to provide counselling assistance to overcome the difficulties while enhancing their confidence and morale with satisfaction. 200 Officers and Other Ranks serving at the Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force Headquarters participated in the lecture.



Stress, Work and Us

We experience interrelated and inter different phases throughout our life. The practices of absorbing those differences are distinctive from each other. As human beings, we are utilising those skills in day-to-day life to overcome different situations. In these different situations, we undergo threats and fear, which is also called stress.

Actually, what is this Stress?

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) "Stress can be defined as any type of change that causes physical, emotional or psychological strain." Further, they explained, "Stress is your body's response to anything that requires attention or action. Everyone experiences stress to some degree. The way you respond to stress, however, makes a big difference to your overall well-being"

What are the Signs of Stress?

The stress can be long-term or short-term. But it's more important to know long-term stress is risky for human life than short-term. There are many symptoms of stress. Among those many, some common factors can be highlighted as follows.

These symptoms are included physical, mental, and behavioural signs such as mood changes, clamping or sweating, lowered libido, sleeping problems, dining



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problems, anxiety, grinding of teeth, headache, Diarrhoea, lowered energy, muscle pains in the neck and shoulders (especially), palpitations and Trembling, etc.

How can we identify Stress?

The recognition of stress is not an easy thing. Even though there are some tips to identify it with



the signs of the following factors.

Behavioral signs: Less time to Enjoy, decreased self-care, dependence on smoking or alcohol

Emotional signs: Angry, Frustration, over thinking, sadness, etc.

Physical signs: high blood pressure, changes in heart palpitations, headaches, muscle pain, or weakened immune system.

Psychological signs: bad memory, feeling alone, anxiety, and trouble remembering

What are the Causes of Stress?

Many factors can cause stress in life. It may be relationships, education, work, money, recognition, attention, or many more things.

How do this Stress impact Work and us?

Work and stress have an inter-relationship in positive and negative nature. Hence work-related stress has much impact on our day-to-day lifestyles in different ways and means. It's essential to know what it means and its consequences. Especially here are described negative impacts and their effects on us.

Among several definitions of work-related stress, this definition "Work-related stress is the response people may have when presented with work demands and pressures that are not matched to their knowledge and abilities and which challenge their ability to cope, is elaborating a wide angle of it.



What are the Sources of Stress at Work?

Factors related to career: when it comes to these factors like weak physical health at work, overload of work, pressure in timings, and risk of physical danger arousing the work-related stress.

Responsibility: circumstances in the role during work, conflicts faced to fulfil the responsibilities, responsibility to own an organisation like many factors are also popping up during the work.

Development in career: situations like imminent promotion or demotion, lack of job security, etc.

Relationships: the way of having a relationship with superiors, under command subordinates, fear of delegating power, lack of trust in workforce type factors are automatically creating a stressful ground.

Culture and the Environment: The environments of the organisation, its policies, position, and its power of decision-making and acceptance also have much impact to emerge stress in a workplace.

At a time when a person feels stress, automatically the nature and nurture of a human being sign him or her to fight or flight (cope up or withdraw). If the person failed to manage the stress, it will lead to depression causing him damages in various ways. Also, it creates anxiety, complexity and fear within an individual.

It is not simple as we mentioned here, it always joins with the biological functioning of the human body. If anyone is always under stress the natural biological system will have much impact which is caused in the long term. Especially, during these situations is a need to identify and have better coping methods to overcome.

If not, bad health behaviours and long-term biological conflicts will create diastolic blood pressure, cholesterol concentration, depressive mood, job dissatisfaction, increased heart rate, diabetes, hair loss, hyperthyroidism, sexual dysfunction, tooth and gum disease, smoking habits, and more. Finally, it will end up with coronary heart disease or mental illnesses.

What are the types?

There are four types of stress.

The short-term stress which we experience is called acute stress. It may be positive or distressing experiences of the day-to-day life. Chronic stress explains, a steady sense of sensation pressured and overwhelmed over a long period. Episodic acute stress: at a time a person experiences acute stress regularly. If he or she has episodic acute stress, the individual may experience constant pressure or that things are not correct. It can be very tiring and affect one physically and mentally. Eustress: explains stress that has the impact of positive response. This is the opposite of distress. It includes any type of beneficial stress, even bodily or mental.

With above all, it's clear that stress is not harmful, but when it goes to extreme level a series of biopsychosocial issues are emerging.

How can we overcome this stress and work-related stress?

Some factors in lifestyle like engaging in physical exercises regularly (WHO suggests that adults engage in 75 to 150 minutes of physical activity throughout the week), getting a balanced diet (Diet has a strong correlation to stress levels and mental health), avoiding bad habits such as smoking, taking alcohol, getting good sleep (at least 6 hours), make time to relax, allocating a leisure time, practising of a deep breath, use of mindfulness techniques taking part in different hobbies, and brain exercises such as puzzle solving can reduce your stress even work-related stress.

Other than the above if you are having such symptoms you can talk to someone very close in life with much trust. Sometimes it may heal you by releasing the pressure which is kept inside for a long time.

Similarly, if you feel this stress is impacting dysfunction in your day-to-day life, mental and



or, danger to life, deviant or distressful it's highly required to go to a qualified mental health care partner. Then they will help you to get into normalcy via medicines and proper psychological treatments. Finally, we all need stress to live but it must be at a level out of danger. Extreme stress for a long term creates a series of issues in psychosocial phenomena. We should have mindfulness and always care for others when they need social support to overcome difficult situations. It will enhance communication, good relationships, empathy, and active listening among different parties to build a society with better coping and understanding of each other.



New GOC 61 Infantry Division met Public Official



After assuming the duties as the new General Officer Commanding of 61 Infantry Division, Major General H M U Herath RWP RSP psc Hdmc met Mr. Willie Gamage Governor of Southern Province on 24 November 2022. During the friendly interaction the both parties exchanged the views on security and civil coordinating affairs in the area.



GEO POLITICAL CHANGES IN PACIFIC ISLAND

China is expanding its state craft in various subcontinents in the world to show its hegemony in the contemporary world. Large number infrastructure projects, financial assistance and military assistance were provided to number of countries under the One Belt and One Road Initiative. This had helped China to ensure and maintain consistent economic growth, foreign direct investment in developing countries and secure strategically important sea lanes. China has expanded the spear of influence to the Pacific Island nations. Chinese military increased its blue water capability and number of military bases in foreign countries.

Australia is dominating power in Pacific Island region which has its spear of influence among number of island nations. Defense white paper of Australia 2013 had identified the strategic importance of security and stability in these islands, climate changes and economic prosperity of these island nations. Australia has engaged actively in establishing regional peace among the pacific islands, which provided financial assistance, disaster mitigation support, training of police and military personnel and support to operationalised response on countering COVID-19 in these Pacific islands. Australia has been the largest development partner in the region has number of infrastructure projects in Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Fiji. There are number of substantial bilateral programmes with Saoma, Tonga, Kiribathi, Nauru and other Pacific Island countries.

Since 2006, China has gradually expanded its trade, diplomatic and commercial activities. More than 1.7 billion dollars of financial support has been granted to these Pacific islands during the period of year 2006-2017. Moreover, it has expended their influence to the Pacific Islands to take more advantage over trade activities, securing sea line of communications to ensure smooth flow of the trade and cargo while having more support at the United Nations General assembly to enhance more strategic military partnership with these islands to obtain more advantage over South Pacific China sea issue.

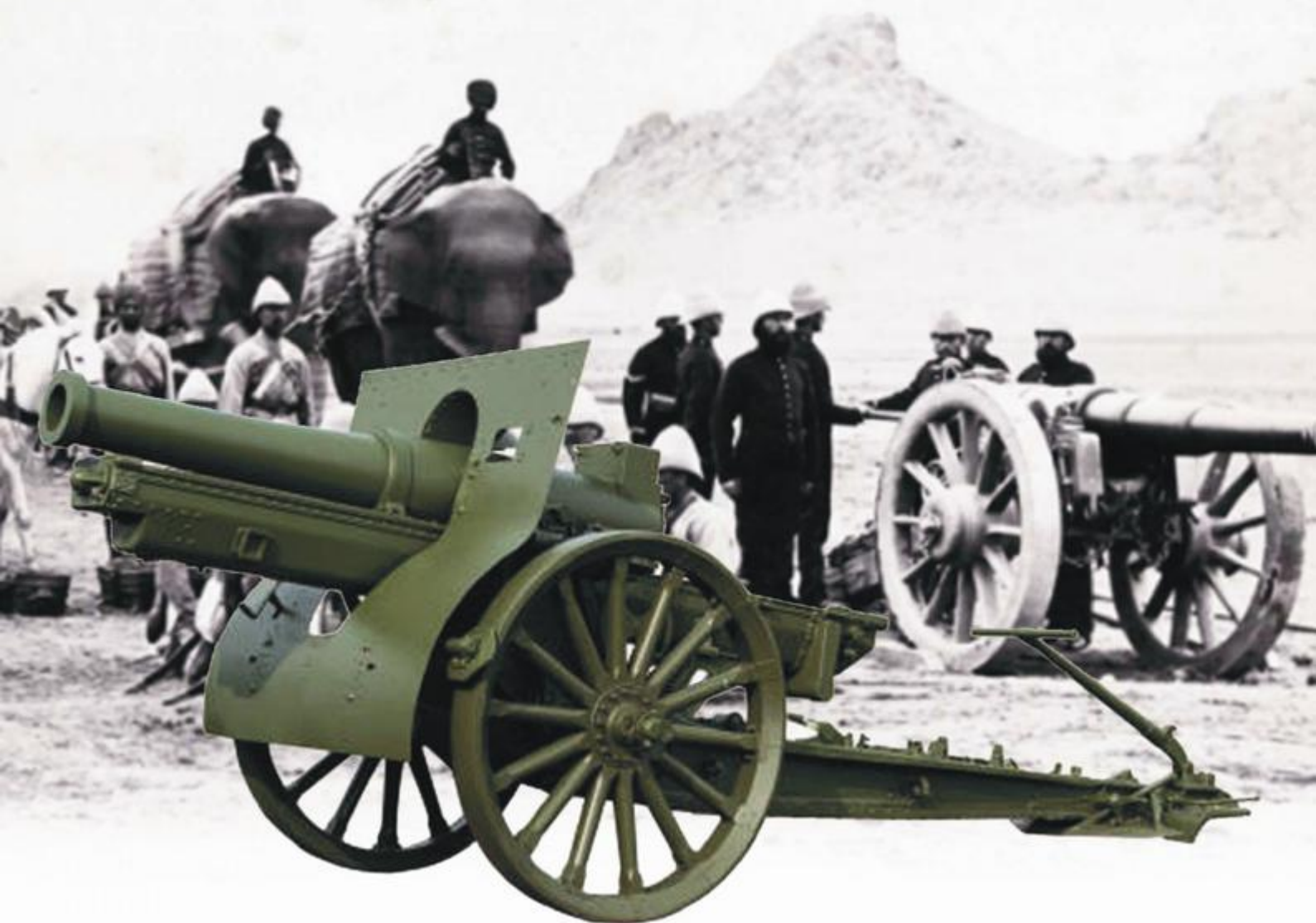
The recent security pact with Solomon Island raised concern of the United States of America, Australia and New Zealand. The Australian government fears that, Chinese ships would be permitted to dock on the Islands and Beijing could send troops to assist maintain social order.

This Chinese presence has challenged the United States of America long standing relationship with freely associated states (FAS) of Hawaii and territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The United States also maintains special relationships with three sovereign countries in the northern Pacific, the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), the Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI). These countries received limited financial, military and security assistance. Chinese activities will be curtailed the Pacific region due to this strategic partnership.

Joe Biden has visionary policy on Pacific Islands. However, last five years, the United States of America had increased diplomatic ties with these island nations. In February Secretary of State Antony Blinken visited Fiji, the first such visit in three decades. In April, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Daniel Kriten and National Security Council Indo-Pacific Coordinator Kurt Campbell traveled to Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands. In September of this year the White House hold first ever Pacific nation leaders conference to address the growing presence of China in Pacific Island Nations and the United States ambitions. This summit had ended with positive note with an agreement to provide additional \$810 financial support of Pacific islands and \$130 to mitigate climate changes in the Pacific nations.

These developments had proved that how much world super powers are interested on the Pacific Island nations. In future there will be more competition in this region between the United States of America and its allies and China. China could have to face two fronts in near future and this would be future flash point as South China Sea.

*Colonel Dammika Adhikari
Colonel Media
Directorate of Media*



THE SHORT HISTORY OF FIELD ARTILLERY

Artillery is a class of heavy military ranged weapons that launch munitions far beyond the range and power of infantry firearms. Early artillery development focused on the ability to breach defensive walls and fortifications during sieges, and led to heavy, fairly immobile siege engines. As technology improved, lighter, more mobile field artillery cannons developed for battlefield use.

Early Chinese artillery had vase-like shapes. This includes the "long-range awe-inspiring" cannon dated from 1350 and found in the 14th-century Ming Dynasty treatise *Huolongjing*. Mongols adopted the Chinese artillery and used it effectively in the great conquest. These small, crude weapons diffused into the Middle East and reached Europe in the 13th century, in a very limited manner. The artillery revolution in Europe

caught on during the Hundred Years' War in the 14th and 15th centuries and changed the way that battles were fought. By the end of the 14th century, the cannons used in battle were very small and not particularly powerful, cannons were only powerful enough to knock in roofs, and could not penetrate castle walls. The earliest medieval cannon, the *pot-de-fer*, had a bulbous, vase-like shape, and was used more for psychological effect than physical damage. As small smooth-bore barrels, these were initially cast in iron or bronze around a core. They fired lead, iron, or stone balls, and sometimes large arrows.

With the development of better metallurgy techniques, later cannons abandoned the vase shape of early artillery. This change can be seen in the 14th-century Chinese bronze "thousand ball thunder cannon", an early example of field

artillery. A major change in Europe occurred between 1420 and 1430, when artillery became much more powerful and could now batter strongholds and fortresses quite efficiently. These weapons became more common, initially as the bombard and later the cannon. Cannons were always muzzle-loaders. The cannons during this period were elongated, and the recipe for gunpowder was improved to make it three times as powerful as before. These changes led to the increased power in the artillery weapons of the time. Bombards were of value mainly in sieges. Bombards developed in Europe were massive smooth-bore weapons distinguished by their lack of a field carriage, immobility once emplaced, highly individual design, and noted unreliability.

The breech-loading swivel guns were developed surprisingly early, and were used from 1364 onward. It was equipped with a swivel for easy rotation and was loaded with mug-shaped chambers, in which gunpowder and projectile had been filled in advance. The chamber was then put in place, blocked with a wedge, and then fired. The guns had a disadvantage: they leaked and lost power around the chambers, but this was compensated by the high rate of fire as multiple chambers could be prepared in advance, and it could fire either cannonball against obstacles, or grapeshot against troops. Breech-loading swivel guns were developed by the Europeans also partly as a cheaper alternative to the very expensive bronze cast muzzle-loading cannons, as bronze was many times more expensive than iron. As cast iron was not yet technologically feasible for the Europeans, the only possibility was to use wrought iron bars hammered together and held with hoops like barrels, giving their name to the gun barrels.

The use of the word "canon" marks the introduction in the 15th century of a dedicated field carriage with axle, trail and animal-drawn limber—this produced mobile field artillery that could move and support an army in action. The reduction in the size of the barrel was due to improvements in both iron technology and gunpowder manufacture, while the development of trunnions—projections at the side of the cannon as an integral part of the cast—allowed the barrel to be fixed to a more movable base and made raising or lowering the barrel much easier. Better gunpowder, cast-iron projectiles instead of stone, and the standardisation of calibres meant that even relatively light cannons could be

deadly. Despite the increased maneuverability, however, cannon was still the slowest component of the army. The first land-based mobile weapon is usually credited to Jan Žižka, who deployed his oxen-hauled cannons during the Hussite Wars of Bohemia between 1418–1424. With the rise of musketry in the 16th century, cannons were largely displaced from the battlefield—the cannons were too slow and cumbersome to be used and too easily lost to a rapid enemy advance. Around 1500, Europeans learnt how to cast iron, and shifted their cannon productions to one-piece iron muzzle-loaders.

Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden emphasised the use of light cannons and mobility in his army, and created new formations and tactics that revolutionised artillery in the 1620s. He discontinued using all 12-pounder—or heavier—cannons as field artillery, preferring, instead, to use cannons that could be manned by only a few men. 4-pounder and 9-pounder cannons could be operated by three men and pulled by only two horses. Each cannon was named for the weight of its projectiles, giving the variants such as 4, 9, and 12, indicating the weight in pounds. Also, his army was the first to use a special cartridge that contained both powders and shot in a simple fabric bag, which sped up loading, and therefore



increased the rate of fire, but unexcelled bag fragments were an additional fouling in the gun barrel and a new tool—a worm—was introduced to remove them. Additionally, he pioneered the use of canister shot against infantry, which was essentially a can filled with musket balls. Gustavus Adolphus increased the number of cannons in his army so dramatically, that there were six cannons



instead of one for each thousand infantry. Around this time also came the idea of aiming the cannon to hit a target. Gunners controlled the range of their cannons by measuring the angle of elevation, using a "gunner's quadrant". As cannons did not have sights, aiming was still largely guesswork even with measuring tools.

Benjamin Robins put artillery on a scientific basis in 1742. Bronze was preferred for cannons because it was lighter than iron and more durable. At that time, cannons were cast hollow around a core and the core often moved within the mould, producing an imperfect bore. This problem was solved by Jean Maritz in 1747 when he began casting guns as a single, solid block, and then drilling the bore on a large machine. Now, a cannon could be manufactured with a better-aligned bore and tighter tolerances. This resulted in less windage – the gap between the cannonball and the bore – which meant less gas pressure escaped so that smaller gunpowder charges could hurl the projectile farther and more accurately. When less gunpowder could be used to achieve the same power and range, the cannon barrels could be made thinner, shorter, and lighter. Lieutenant General Jean Baptiste Vaquette de Gribeauval introduced the standardisation of cannon design



in 1765. He developed a field howitzer whose gun barrel, carriage assembly and ammunition specifications were made uniform for all French cannons. The standardised interchangeable parts of these cannons made their mass production and repair much easier.

A British industrialist William Armstrong was awarded a contract by the government to design a new artillery gun. Production started in 1855 and the outcome was the revolutionary rifled breech-loading Armstrong Gun, which marked the birth of modern artillery. Although rifling had been

tried on small arms since the 15th century, the necessary machinery to accurately rifle artillery was not available until the mid-19th century. Also, earlier attempts at breech-loading mechanisms had been made since medieval times, the essential engineering problem was that the mechanism could not withstand the explosive charge. It was only with the advances in metallurgy and precision engineering capabilities during the Industrial Revolution that Armstrong was able to construct a viable solution. What made the gun really revolutionary lay in the technique of the construction of the gun barrel that allowed it to withstand much more powerful explosive forces. Another innovative feature was essentially a squeeze bore; the bore at the muzzle end was of a slightly smaller diameter, which centered the shell before it left the barrel. The cast iron shell of the Armstrong gun was similar in shape to a Minié ball and which engaged with the gun's rifling grooves to impart spin to the shell. This spin, together with the elimination of windage as a result of the tight fit, enabled the gun to achieve greater range and accuracy than existing smooth-bore muzzle-loaders with a smaller powder charge. The gun was mounted on a carriage in such a way as to return the gun to firing position after the recoil.

The QF 1 pounder, universally known as the pom-pom due to the sound of its discharge, was a 37 mm British auto-cannon, the first of its type in the world. Hiram Maxim originally designed the pom-pom in the late 1880s as an enlarged version of the Maxim machine gun. Its longer range necessitated exploding projectiles to judge range, which in turn dictated a shell weight of at least 400 grams, as that was the lightest exploding shell allowed under the Saint Petersburg Declaration of 1868 and reaffirmed in the Hague Convention of 1899. The pom-pom fired 1 pound (0.45 kg) gunpowder-filled explosive shells at a rate of over 200 rounds a minute.

Indirect fire was the defining characteristic of 20th-century artillery, whereby the firing equipment is aimed without seeing the target through its sights, and led to changes in the amount of artillery, its tactics, organisation, and techniques, most of which occurred during World War I. The lining-plane sight was invented in Germany and provided a means of indirect laying in azimuth, complementing the clinometers for indirect laying in elevation which already existed. In the early 1900s, Goertz in Germany developed an optical sight for azimuth laying. It quickly replaced the lining-plane.

The first cannon to contain all 'modern' features is generally considered to be the French 75 of 1897. The gun used cased ammunition, was breech-loading, had modern sights, and a self-contained firing mechanism. It was the first field gun to include a hydro-pneumatic recoil mechanism, which kept the gun's trail and wheels perfectly still during the firing sequence. Since it did not need to be re-aimed after each shot, the crew could fire as soon as the barrel returned to its resting position.

In typical use, the French 75 could deliver fifteen rounds per minute on its target, either shrapnel or melinite high-explosive, up to about 8,500 m away. Its firing rate could even reach close to 30 rounds per minute, albeit only for a very short time and with a highly experienced crew. These were rates that contemporary bolt action rifles could not match.

The World War II sparked new developments in cannon technology. Among them were sabot rounds, hollow-charge projectiles, and proximity fuses, all of which increased the effectiveness of cannon against a specific target. Anti-tank sabot rounds were invented in France, but the creator of the concept fled to Britain due to the invasion. Britain subsequently led the development of sabot ammunition during the war, introducing sabot projectiles to the British 57 mm QF 6-pounder and 76.2 mm QF 17-pounder guns, among others. British military researchers conceived the idea of a proximity fuse in the early stages of the war, and the tests were then carried out with rockets. However, British scientists were uncertain whether a fuse could be developed for anti-aircraft shells,

which had to withstand much higher accelerations than rockets. They shared a wide range of possible ideas for designing a fuse with the United States in late 1940, and successful tests were carried out in 1942. The proximity fuse emerged on the battlefields of Europe in late December 1944.

Nevertheless, by the late 1970s precision-guided munitions started to appear, notably the US 155 mm Copperhead and it's Soviet 152 mm Krasnopol equivalent that had success in Indian service. These relied on laser designation to 'illuminate' the target that the shell homed onto. However, in the early 21st century, the Global Positioning System (GPS) enabled relatively cheap and accurate guidance for shells and missiles, notably the US 155 mm Excalibur. The introduction of these led to a new issue, the need for very accurate three-dimensional target coordinates—the mensuration process.



*Mr Keido Kurubeg
Estonia*





SRI LANKA ARMY GENERAL SERVICE CORPS

"SERVICE WITH EXCELLENCE"

The Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps (SLAGSC) is one of the prestigious Service Regiments of the Sri Lanka Army and carries more than 71 years of legacy glittering with the motto; 'Service with Excellence'. Late Lieutenant Colonel B J Wijemanna was the first Commanding Officer of this illustrious regiment. This Regiment was first established in the name of the "Ceylon General Service Corps" in 1951. The prominent name of SLAGSC, received to this regiment later to symbolise our country's history and heritage.

As a service Regiment, SLAGSC provide specialised professional service to the Army and to command, administer and furnished logistics supports to the elements of the Regiment, provide troops and logistics support for Army pay and records, Army legal services, Army Band and Performing Arts and Training of Officers and Other Ranks for all Arms in Regimental and Public Accounts.



By
Lieutenant M Katugampola
SLAGSC
Directorate of Media
Army Headquarters

Six Directorates and Branches in order, Directorate of Internal Audit, Directorate of Budget and Financial Management, Directorate of Pay and Records, Directorate of Legal Services, Directorate of Army Band and Performing Arts and Financial Management Branch are currently administered and managed solely under this Service Regiment.

Subsequently, with the advancement of the services provided by the Regiment new units were raised in different locations island-wide. Similarly, 1st, 3rd and 4th Battalion Sri Lanka Army General Service



Corps (Regular Units) were established in the Panagoda Army Cantonment and 2nd, 5th and 6th Battalions of Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps (Volunteer Units) established in Panagoda, Ambalangoda and Kandakadu.

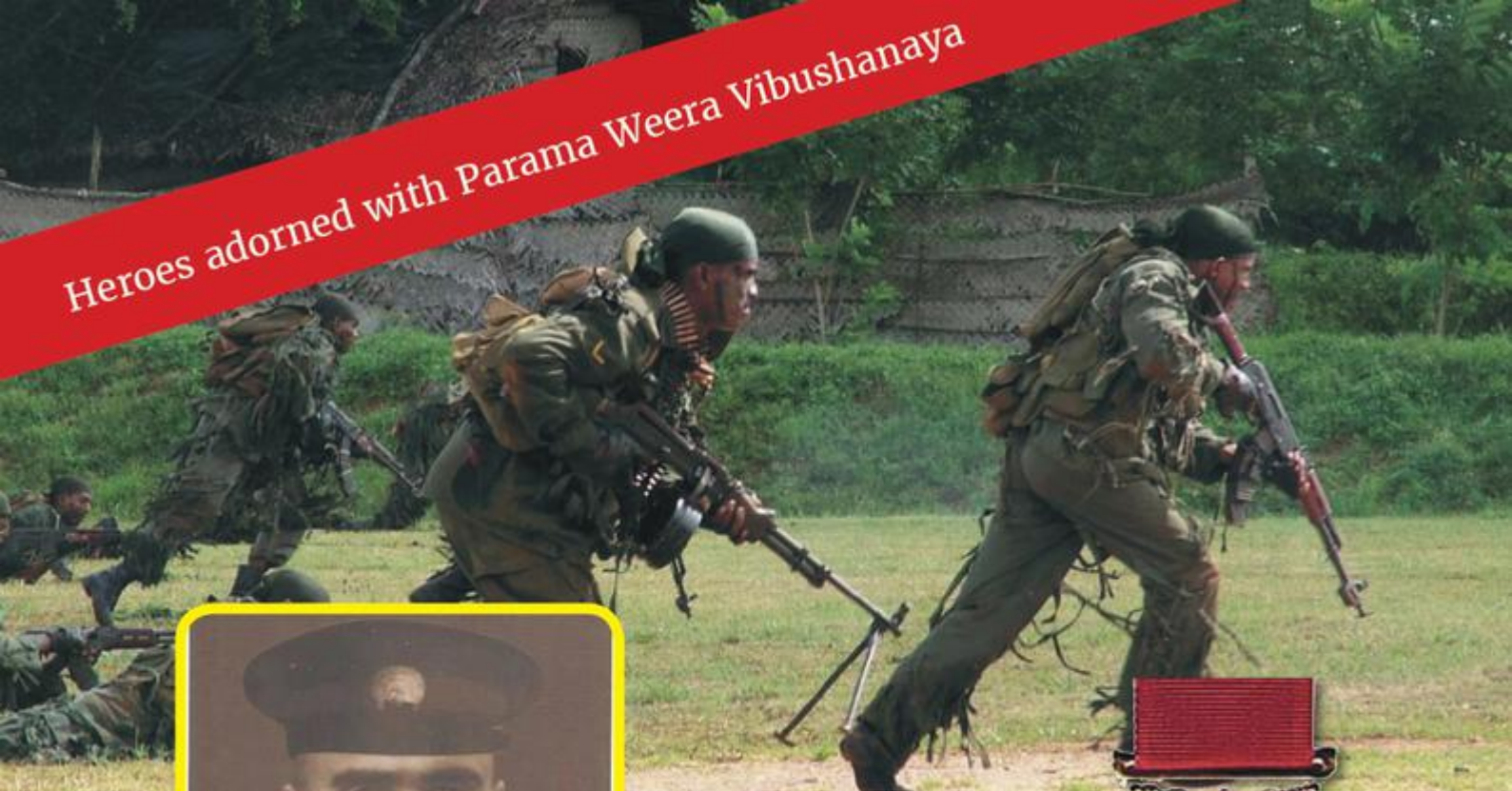
In addition, Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps Trade School is established in Kuttigala where they conduct Unit Account and Admin Officers Course, Bugle Course, Clerk Course, Regimental Accounts, Pay & Admin Senior NCOs Course, Bugle Refresher Course, Sinhala Language Course and Agriculture Demonstrator Course.

Presently, the Regimental Centre of the Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps has been located at Panagoda Army Cantonment in the Security Force Headquarters (West) which comprises 3 Regular units and 3 Volunteer units island-wide.

During the humanitarian operation, all the SLAGSC battalions supported the fighting brigades and supported at their best to hold the liberated lands while several officers and 73 other ranks of the Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps sacrificed their lives for the motherland.

Not only they contributed to the battlefield but also excelled in the sports arena nationally and internationally. The SLAGSC which has shown a proud history both in the battlefield and sports field have exhibited unmatched prowess in combat, national sports events, combat firing and ceremonial parades. This prestigious and excellent Service Regiment, has produced considerable number of Major Generals up to date. It is stated here with great pride that the SLAGSC silently but majestically marches forward into the future to discharge their duties, tasks and responsibilities to the nation and the Army selflessly and in a disciplined manner, in proper military conduct, motivated by the spirit infused into the very being by the motto, "Service with Excellence".

Heroes adorned with Parama Weera Vibushanaya



The act of gallantry exhibited at Pudukuduirippu

**O/66514 Captain HMKI Meghawarna
PWV RSP
9 Gemunu Watch**

HMKI Meghawarna was born in Yahinna village as the only boy child to Businessman Mr. Hewawasam Goluwa Marakkalage Kithsiri Meghawarna and Mrs. Gammuluge Ariyalatha Silva on 9 December 1984. The baby boy was named Hewawasam Goluwa Marakkalage Kasun Ishara Meghawarna.

The young days of Kasun Ishara Meghawarna spent with his elder sister Heshani Eranga. With the completion of the age 6, Meghawarna admitted to the Kahawatta Central College on 10 January 1989.

He was a decent child in the school being an example to the other school mates during his days in school. His teachers and school principal identified him as an individual with the capacity of leadership and appointed him as the school prefect. His achievements were exhibited in various scopes including sports.

Young student Meghawarna registered in 8th Battalion as a school Cadet in 2002 and participated in National Cadet Evaluation Camp, Rantambe in

2003 as a Corporal representing his school.

Having the strong feeling towards the country, young Meghawarna decided to join the Sri Lanka Army soon after the termination of school.

Accordingly, Meghawarna joined the Sri Lanka Army on 3 January 2005 as an Officer Cadet. He completed his preliminary military training under Officer Cadet Course No. 62 at Sri Lanka Military Academy.

During his Cadet period he excelled in Drills and Firing and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant on 22 December 2007. His earnest enthusiasm towards his profession highlighted during many occasions in military life.

Second Lieutenant Meghawarna enlisted to Gemunu Watch which marches forward under "Tarry not Forward" and attached to Gemunu Watch Regimental Centre, Kuruwita and became a member of 9 Gemunu Watch on 31 July 2008. Apart from the Cadet Course, he completed Special Operation Course in Infantry mastering his skills.

Soon after the completion of the course, Second Lieutenant Meghawarna sent to assist the operations in Vellamkulam-Pudukudirippu under North Humanitarian Operation.

The troops marched forward under the leadership of Second Lieutenant Meghawarna with the firm determination to eliminate the enemy. Sri Lanka Army awarded Second Lieutenant Meghawarna Rana Sura Padakkama (RSP) due to his excellent leadership to capture the enemy forward defence line in Iranamadu on 8 February 2009.

Afterwards, Second Lieutenant Meghawarna adorned Purna Bhoomi Padakkama, North East Operation Medal and Wanni Humanitarian Medals in appreciation of his leadership.

The battle in Pudukudirippu took its fearsome level with the dawn of second week March in 2009. The troops had face to face battle and defeated the enemy hidden in the Pudukudirippu area.

The valorous troops of 9 Gemunu Watch thereby rendered a dedicative service during the battle. It was 2 March 2009. Second Lieutenant Meghawarna as the leader of the team C marched forward together his team destroying the enemy bunker line.

The troops of Gemunu Watch marched amid the enemy fire of MPMG, LMG, RPG Rocket attacks, and artillery. The Gemunu Watch team headed by Lieutenant Meghawarna freed the area from the enemy enhancing the morale of the comrades, personally rescuing the casualties.

The battle to capture the bunker line prevailed more than three hours. Lieutenant Meghawarna led the battle with proper coordination with his comrades.

Bravely encountering the enemy fire Lieutenant Meghawarna voluntarily jumped into the enemy bunker line motivating his troops and turned the advantage of the ground into his teams favour.

At the time, group of hidden terrorists appeared suddenly with MPMG, LMG, RPG and Motar However, Lieutenant Meghawarna and his team did not let the rescued land to fall in the enemy hands.

However, Lieutenant Meghawarna severely injured during the



battle. he did not prefer to leave his team alone whether he was injured. He decided to stay in the battleground with his team exhibiting the genuine qualities of a warrior.

Due to the severe injuries Lieutenant Meghawarna died in the battle ground. In appreciation of his service he was promoted to the rank of Captain.

Recalling the memories of Lieutenant Meghawarna, Commanding Officer at the time appreciated the incredible talent of Lieutenant Meghawarna to achieve the target with 60 mm Motor. On 04 February 2012, Lieutenant Meghawarna was posthumously awarded the Parama Weera Vibhushanaya for his individual acts of gallantry and conspicuous bravery of the most exceptional order in the face of the enemy performed voluntarily whilst on active service with no regard to the risk of his own life thereby safeguarding the lives of his comrades.

Also, parents of Captain Meghawarna was awarded Uththama Pooja (Medal of Honour for Supreme Sacrifice).



“My son is a talented sportsman and quick in nature. He willingly joined the Sri Lanka Army. I had the fear that I may lose my child. However, he left us. But when see how he is loved as a warrior, my heart filled with satisfaction.”

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An unexpected twist (Visit of the in laws)

Chapter Ten



By
Captain J G M R P Ksonarihami SLAGSC
Joint Service Language Training Institute
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Our new residence was indeed a magnificent creation of Maya and Danava, the heavenly architects. In beauty it was only the second best to Lord Indra's heavenly abode. For the first time after my marriage to Pandavas, I felt very much like a typical queen consort as I entered this new palace. While enjoying the luxuries of royalty Yudhishtira took the liberty of inviting the Kuru clan to our newly built palace.

The day did not bring much happiness to me although I attentively engaged in serving the in laws. I could see the jealousy of their hearts for our newly found luxuries right through them as I was conversing with them. I was serving some refreshments to Gandhari, the queen mother of the Kuru clan, as Duryodhana, the enemy and the most notorious cousin of Pandavas entered the hall.

"So Draupadi, now you are the queen consort of Panadavas. How do you find it?"

"Exhausting job you know aunt. Handling five husbands at once."

We shared a good laugh over this statement of mine. Suddenly, a loud noise made us curious. Duryodhana was laying on the floor as Pandavas

were making fun of him. Many people assumed the glossy floor of our new palace to be a pond. However, it was actually the shine of the floor which deceived them. This was another marvelous creation of Maya and Danava. Duryodhana too made himself a fool of thinking the same thing about the floor. As my Panadava husbands were laughing at him, I could see the anger in his eyes clearly. With this terrible incident, the supper almost ended. As I sat in the balcony outside the bedroom, Yudhishtira entered with a confused face.

"You look unwell my lord, what happened?"

"Panchali, I think we made a grave mistake today by inviting these people."

"Why do you think so?"

"I should not have done that. I should not have invited them here." He repeated as he sat down near me.

"For heaven's sake tell me what happened? How can I help you unless you tell me?"

"Duryodhana invited me to a dice game with him. This must be another trap."

"Why do you think so? You are an expert with the dice my lord."

"I sense it Panchali. I saw the anger and jealousy in his eyes when he invited for the game."

"What did you say to him?"

"I accepted. I cannot back down as a king you know."

"hmmmm.. I see. We have to ask help from Krishna I think."

"No, don't tell him. He is busy with his own kingdom these days. We should not bother him."

"What do we do? Can you handle alone?"

"I hope so. There's Arjuna. Together we will do something."

"Alright, I will pray for you guys."

"I sincerely hope this will end well Panchali. I'm tired of facing endless challenges you know. We never had a peaceful childhood."

"Don't think too much. I'm here you know. My father and brother will also help us in case if something happens. You are not alone." As I uttered those words, Yudhishtira took my hand and kissed it. I caressed through his hair as he kept his head on my lap.

However, had I known about the real intentions of Duryodhana, I would have never allowed my husbands to play that dice game ever.



We lead in the sports too...

Sri Lanka Army produced first-ever Sri Lankan President of CISMTC



The Sri Lanka Army produced Major R B N Rathnayake departed from the island to attend the 26th World Military Taekwondo Championship, held in Tehran, Iran during 22-27 November 2022 with the approval of the Commander of the Army.

Major R B N Rathnayake appointed as the first-ever Sri Lankan President of Council of International Sports Military Taekwondo Committee. Taekwondo players from 14 countries participated in the championship. Major Rathnayake led the organising events as the Chairman of the World Military Taekwondo Board.

Army Team grabbed the National Canoeing and Kayaking Championship 2022



The Sri Lanka Army Canoeing and Kayaking Team secured the overall Championship for the 4th consecutive year by winning 13 medals in the Men's Open event in the National Canoeing and Kayaking Championship 2022 pushing the Navy team runners-up during competition held on 16 and 17 December 2022 at Diyawanna Lake in Battaramulla. In the Women's Open event, Army women players carried away 06 medals pushing the Sri Lanka Adventures Sports Club to be the runners-up. Also, in the veterans' event Army players dominated winning 6 medals.

Army players grabbed 17th National Tug of War Championship



The 17th Sri Lanka Tug of War Championship, organised by the Sri Lanka Tug of War Federation was held on 11 December 2022 at the Sports Ministry Grounds in Torrington, Colombo with the participation of Army players. Ensuring the victory, the Army players dominated the tournament and won the Championship titles in all the categories. Accordingly, Army players secured the championships under 23 Women (weight Class - 500 kg) category, under 23 Men (weight Class - 600 kg) category, Weight Class 640kg Men category, Weight Class 560kg Women category, Open Women category and Open Men category.

All Island Sepak Takraw Tournament



In line with its 150 anniversary, Colombo Malay Cricket organised "All Island Sepak Takraw Tournament" was held on 5 November 2022 at Malay Cricket grounds with the participation of army athletics. The tournament held under Regu event and Sri Lanka Army Female "A" team won the championship pushing Sri Lanka Army Female "B" team to runners-up position. Heavy rains cancelled the finals of Army male events therefore, the winners of Army male selected based on the toss of coin. Brigadier K A U Kodithuwakku RSP USP PSC IG Chairman, Army Sepak Takraw Committee and Sri Lanka Army Football Committee Director of Personal Administration gave away the certificates for the winners.'

22 Infantry Division footballers carried away championship in Inter Division Football

The enthusiastic team of football players of the 22 Infantry Division of the Security Force Headquarters (East) emerged victorious for the 4th consecutive time, defeating the 23 Division's team for 1-0 during the finals at Ehamparam grounds in Trincomalee on 10 December 2022 at the Inter Division Football Finals 2022. The tournament conducted with the participation of football teams representing the Security Force Headquarters (East) including 22, 23, 24 Infantry Divisions and Forward Maintenance Area (East).



Major General S R K Hettiarachchi RWP RSP USP ndu psc Commander Security Force (East) graced the finals as the Chief Guest and awarded certificates, medals and trophies to the winners. The tournament was organised under the directions of the General Officer Commanding (GOC), 22 Infantry Division.

23 Infantry Division grabbed the Inter Division Volleyball Tournament

The certificate awarding ceremony of the Inter Division Volleyball Tournament of the Security Force Headquarters (East) was held at Gallella - Polonnaruwa National Indoor Stadium on 20 December 2022. 22 and 23 Infantry Divisions' Volleyball teams qualified for the finals. After neck -to neck encounter, 23 Infantry Division Volleyball Team secured the championship beating their rival, 22 Infantry Division team. General Officer Commanding, the 23 Infantry Division graced the awarding ceremony as the Chief Guest. Infantry Brigade Commanders, Commanding Officers, Senior Staff Officers, Other Ranks and invitees participated in the awarding ceremony.



23 Infantry Division cricketers won in Inter-Division Tournament

The annual Inter -Division cricket tournament of the Security Force Headquarters (East) was organised as a 10-over softball cricket tournament at the Sri Lanka Artillery Regiment Training School's playground in Minneriya on 14 December 2022.

During the final encounter, 23 Infantry Division cricketers scored 144 runs for 05 wickets against their rivals in the 22 Infantry Division who could score only 68 runs for 8 wickets. The 23 Division team was accordingly declared as the champions while pushing the 22 Infantry Division to the runner-up slot.



Commander, Forward Maintenance Area (East) awarded the trophies amid the cheering of a large crowd of spectators. General Officers Commanding 22, 23, and 24 Infantry Divisions, Brigade Commanders, Commanding Officers, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks were among the spectators. Staff Sergeant RAGCK Galahitiyawa was the Best Bowler, Corporal UNSS Asanka was the Best Batsman and Corporal UNSS Asanka was the Man of the Match.

Army Inter Regiment Elle Tournament - 2022



The Army Inter Regiment Elle Tournament-2022 was held at Diyagama Mahinda Rajapaksha Stadium on a grand scale from 14 to 21 November 2022 with the participation of more than 450 Elle players.

Sri Lanka Light Infantry Elle team beat the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps team amidst roars of applause and clinched the champion trophy pushing the Sri Lanka National Guard team to secure the third place in the tournament.

Meanwhile, in the women's category 5 (V) Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps Elle team emerged as champions to claim the trophy, beating the 4 (Volunteer) Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps Elle team. 7 Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps team secured the 3rd place in the tournament.

Private Balasooriya NC of the Sri Lanka Light Infantry adjudged the Best player in the Inter Regiment Elle Championship - 2022. Lance Corporal Jayarathne RASH of the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps and Private Kalhara DADC of the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps received awards as the Best Fielder and the Best Batsman respectively.

Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment won Inter Regiment Championship in Muay Thai



Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment players beating more than 120 competitors of 13 Regiments of the Army won the Championship in the Inter Regiment Muay Thai Championship 2022, held at Panagoda Indoor Stadium on 14 December 2022. The Gajaba Regiment and Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment troops emerged as 2nd and 3rd runners -up respectively.

Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment scored 07 gold medals, 03 silver medals and 4 bronze medals, Gajaba Regiment scored 01 gold medal, 06 silver medals and 10 bronze medals and Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment scored 01 gold medal, 01 silver medal and 02 bronze medals.

SLASC football players grabbed Inter Regiment Football Championship-2022

Army Inter Regiment Football Championship-2022 tournament which was held at Colombo Race Course grounds on 22 December 2022 giving fresh hopes for the Army football players of every regiment. Sri Lanka Army Service Corps (SLASC) and the Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps (SLAGSC) qualified for finals beating 17 Regimental football teams vied

in the tournament. After a neck-to-neck close encounter with Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps players, the football team of the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps emerged as champions in the Inter Regiment Football Championship - 2022 beating the rivalry 4 - 2 goals.



Staff Sergeant Silva HDM of the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Team won the awards for the Best Player of the tournament and the Private Gimhana MAN of the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps nominated as Best Goal Keeper. Chief of Staff graced the event as the Chief Guest on behalf of the Commander of the Army, together with Deputy Chief of Staff, Commandant, Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force, Adjutant General and a large gathering of football fans witnessed the finals at Race Course grounds.

19 Regiments vie in Inter Regiment Badminton Championship



The Army Inter Regiment Badminton Championship was held on 06 December 2022 at Panagoda Army Cantonment amidst a large crowd of spectators. Players from 19 Regiments vied in 22 competitive events for supremacy during the championship.

After close encounters, Sri Lanka Army Women Corps players carried away the women's championship leaving the runners-up trophy to the Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps. Further, players in the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps secured the men's team championship pushing the Sri Lanka Light Infantry Regiment players to be the runners-up.

Major General D M K D B Pussella RWP RSP Commander, Security Forces (West), graced the event as the Chief Guest during the awarding ceremony. Major General A H L G Amarapala RWP RSP psc General Officer Commanding, Engineer Division, Chairman, Sri Lanka Army Badminton Committee, Assistant Chairman, Sri Lanka Army Badminton Committee and a gathering of Officers, and Other Ranks watched the finals and awarding ceremony.

Inter Unit Swimming Meet at 3 Sri Lanka Armoured Corps Regiment

The Inter Unit Swimming Meet - 2022, organised by 3 Sri Lanka Armoured Corps Regiment (SLAC) held at the Salgadu swimming complex in Anuradhapura on 30 December 2022. Displaying tremendous overall performances, swimmers in the 4 Sri Lanka Armoured Corps Regiment emerged as champions in the tournament. 3 Sri Lanka Armoured Corps Regiment participants secured the runners up slot. Trooper Peiris KSR of 4 Sri Lanka Armoured Corps Regiment clinched the Best Swimmer award for his outstanding skills in the Inter Unit Swimming Meet - 2022.



SLAMC players won Inter Regiment Chess Championship



The certificate awarding ceremony of the Sri Lanka Army Inter Regiment Chess Championship - 2022 was held on 9 December 2022 at Sri Lanka Light Infantry (SLLI) Regimental Headquarters auditorium at Panagoda. Major General D M K D B Pussella RWP RSP Commander, Security Force (West), graced the event as the Chief Guest during the awarding ceremony at the invitation of the Chairman, Army Chess Committee, Major General M K Jayawardena RSP USP ndu, Colonel Commandant, Corps of Engineers, and the Chief Field Engineer.



The Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps (SLAMC) Chess players won 2022 Inter Regiment Chess Championship and Sri Lanka Light Infantry Regiment (SLLI) won the 2nd place. Gajaba Regiment players secured the third place. Major General D M K D B Pussella RWP RSP Commander, Security Force (West) awarded the trophies, medals and certificates to the winners and champions. Officers and Other Ranks participated in the event.

Heartiest congratulations on your achievements



**Major General
S U M N Manage WWV
RWP RSP psc**

assumed office as the
Commander,
1 Corps

on 23 December 2022



**Major General
D B S N Bothota RWP RSP
USP psc**

assumed office as the
Commander,
Security Force (Jaffna)

on 26 December 2022



**Major General
D M K D B Pussella RWP
RSP**

assumed office as the
Colonel Commandant,
Mechanized Infantry
Regiment

on 1 December 2022



**Major General
U D Wijesekera RWP RSP
USP rcds psc**

assumed office as the
Commander,
Security Force
(Mullaitivu)

on 15 December 2022

Also assumed office as the Colonel
Commandant
Sri Lanka Army Women Corps
on 6 December 2022



**Major General
M K Jayawardena RSP USP
ndu**

assumed office as the
Colonel Commandant,
Sri Lanka Engineers

on 5 December 2022



**Major General S R B
Aluvihare RWP RSP ndu
psc**

assumed office as
the General Officer
Commanding,
11 Infantry Division

on 19 December 2022



**Major General
S W M Fernando WWV
RWP RSP USP ndc psc**

assumed office as the
Military Secretary,
Army Headquarters

on 21 December 2022



**Major General
S W B Welagedara RSP
USP ndc**

assumed office as
the General Officer
Commanding,
51 Infantry Division

on 14 December 2022



**Brigadier
M G A N B
Mahathuwakkara RWP
RSP ndc**

assumed office as the
Commandant,
Ranaviru Apparel

on 5 December 2022



**Brigadier
R K N C Jayawardena RSP
ndc**

assumed office as
the General Officer
Commanding,
66 Infantry Division

on 7 December 2022



**Brigadier
D C V K Kulatunga USP**

assumed office as the
Director,
National Defence School

on 23 December 2022



**Brigadier
W P Kariyawasam**

assumed office as the
Commandant,
Brigade Headquarters,
Armoured Corps

on 21 November 2022



**Brigadier
J P Vithanachchi RWP USP**

assumed office as the
Director,
Management and
Maintenance

on 2 December 2022



**Brigadier
M M Salwatura RWP RSP
USP**

assumed office as the
Centre Commandant,
Sri Lanka Medical Corps

on 5 December 2022



**Brigadier
S A N J Ariyasena**

assumed office as the
Brigadier (Admin/
Quartering),
Security Force
Headquarters
(Mullaitivu)

on 8 December 2022



**Brigadier
C Kalutharaarachchi**

assumed office as the
Brigadier (Admin/
Quartering),
Security Force
Headquarters
(Wanni)

on 5 December 2022



**Colonel
G D J C Prematilaka USP
psc**

assumed office as the
Commander,
553 Infantry Brigade

on 19 December 2022



**Colonel
K P P Karunanayaka**

assumed office as the
Commander,
662 Infantry Brigade

on 21 November 2022



**Colonel
C D Wickramanayake WV
RSP**

assumed office as the
Commander,
643 Infantry Brigade

on 5 December 2022



**Colonel
R R M P N B
Bambaradeniya RWP RSP
USP psc**

assumed office as the
Commander,
542 Infantry Brigade

on 8 December 2022



**Colonel
H K L J Perera WWV RWP
RSP**

assumed office as the
Commander,
612 Infantry Brigade

on 14 December 2022



**Colonel
K A D N R Kannangara
RSP IG**

assumed office as the
Colonel General Staff,
21 Infantry Division

on 6 December 2022



**Colonel
K P N S K Kariyawasam
AATO Lsc**

assumed office as the
Commandant,
Central Armory and
Ammo Deport

on 27 December 2022



**Colonel
G R S Dharmarathne USP**

assumed office as the
Deputy Commandant,
Ranaviru Resource
Centre

on 15 December 2022



**Colonel
T S Liyanagunawardana**

assumed office as the
Colonel General Staff,
62 Infantry Division

on 19 December 2022



**Colonel
M D S N Karunarathne psc**

assumed office as the
Colonel General Staff,
Security Force
Headquarters
(Mullaitivu)

on 9 December 2022



**Colonel
D M M C Wijerathna Lsc**

assumed office as
the Colonel (Admin/
Quartering),
Security Force
Headquarters (Wanni)

on 1 December 2022



**Colonel
M T I Gunawardena RSP
psc**

assumed office as the
Colonel Coordinating,
12 Infantry Division

on 1 December 2022



**Lieutenant Colonel
G H S Nawaratne RSP psc**

assumed office as the
Commanding Officer,
4 Commando Regiment

on 21 November 2022



**Major
A A S Amaratunge**

assumed office as the
Commanding Officer,
12 (Volunteer) Sri Lanka
Artillery

on 12 July 2022



**Major
W S P Perera**

assumed office as the
Commanding Officer,
2 (Volunteer) Sri Lanka
Sinha Regiment

on 16 December 2022



**Major
J P U Kumara USP**

assumed office as the
Commanding Officer,
2 Mechanized Infantry
Regiment

on 21 September 2022



**WO I
HMA Ruwan Bandara USP**

assumed office as the
Brigade Sergeant Major,
Sri Lanka Armoured
Corps Headquarters

on 20 September 2022



**WO I
HMRC Herath RSP**

assumed office as the
Brigade Sergeant Major,
242 Infantry Brigade
Headquarters

on 12 December 2022



**WO I
WMD Wanasinghe**

assumed office as the
Regimental Sergeant
Major,
2 Mechanized Infantry
Regiment

on 28 November 2022



**WO I
RMA Rathnayake**

assumed office as the
Chief Clerk,
Sri Lanka Army Corps
of Agriculture and
Livestock

on 27 October 2022

SLSR Headquarters Battalion celebrated 23rd Anniversary



Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment completed its 23 years on 23 November 2022. Series of programmes launched in line with the anniversary. Troops of Regimental Headquarters Battalion saluted a Guard Turnout for Lieutenant Colonel L M K S Gnanarathne RWP RSP USP Commanding Officer and he planted a sapling marking the anniversary. All rank tea party was arranged for all Officers and Other Ranks marking the significance of the day.

In line with the same event, Brigadeir M P N A Mutumala USP psc Centre Commandant Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment declared open the newly-erected soldiers' billet under the Sinha Diriya Piyasa project, by the financial allocations of Sri Lanka Army.

RANAVIRUWA



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Multiply manufacture of Ordnance established

Saving a large share of foreign exchange, the Army Ordnance Industries (AOI) was relocated and inaugurated on 8 December 2022 at Veyangoda Central Arms and Ammunition Depot premises. The project was initiated to be in line with the Sri Lanka Army 'Way Forward Strategy 2020 - 2025'.

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army attended the inauguration as the Chief Guest at the invitation of Major General M E P Weerasinghe USP ato Colonel Commandant, Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps (SLAOC).

In the year 2014, the Army's first Ordnance factory was established in Dombagoda, aiming to manufacture a selected variety of hardware, such as iron beds, iron equipment, leather products, apparel, refilled tyres, canopies, etc. The new expanded premises comprised of separate production units such as apparel, belts, berets, shoes, weavings, iron beds and different equipment manufacturing sections at Veyangoda began in 2021 and completed in early December 2022.

Major General D G S Senarath Yapa RWP RSP ndu Commandant Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force, Major General D M K D B Pussella RWP RSP Commander Security Forces (West), Major General W B S M Abeysekara RWP USP Director General Financial Management, Major General G R R P Jayawardena RWP RSP ndu Quarter Master General, Major General S P A I M B Samarakoon Hdmc Lsc Commander, Army Logistic Command, Major General J A R S K Jayasekara Director General, Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks were associated with the ceremony.





***"The sword that
protects the nation"***



Sri Lankan history is rich with stories of powerful swords. Some swords kept as a symbol of protection, some served as a symbol of power and authority while some represented the exceptional bravery to stand before the face of enemy. Thus, the sword has become a symbol of confidence as it rarely fails breaking in the hands.

Nation requires brave defenders who are capable to hold the sword as enemies may appear at any moment in anywhere giving no prior notice. Sword bearer requires a good balance as its blows become certain with the holder. A nation requires such defenders who can hold the sword properly to protect the pride of a Nation.

