



# BELLATOR

R A N A V I R U W A







## Special Communication Vehicles from China

Honourable Premitha Bandara Tennakoon, Acting Minister of Defence and General Kamal Gunaratne (Rtd) WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc MPhil, Secretary to the Ministry of Defence accepted the 11 special communication vehicles that were gifted to the Ministry of Defence under the Chinese Military Grant Scheme during a simple formal ceremony on 22 August 2023 at the Army Headquarters.

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army, Major General W A S S Wanasinghe RSP VSV USP ndu Chief of Staff of the Army and Senior Colonel Zhou Bo, Defence Attaché at the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Sri Lanka were among the distinguished invitees to the occasion.

Ten Field Communication Vehicles and a Mobile Command and Control Vehicle were symbolically handed over to Honourable Premitha Bandara Tennakoon, Acting Minister of Defence by Senior Colonel Zhou Bo in the premises.







## A SPECIAL MASS COMMEMORATES THE LEGACY OF LEGENDARY WAR VETERAN

A special mass was held in memory of 31<sup>st</sup> death anniversary of late Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa and Major General Wijaya Wimalaratne on 8 August 2023 at St. Theresa's Church in Thimbirigasyaya with the participation of his widow, Mrs. Laly Kobbekaduwa and family members.

General Kamal Gunaratne (Rtd) WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc MPhil, Secretary to 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, Retired Senior Officers including General Jagath Jayasuriya (Rtd) RWP VSV USP ndu psc, Senior Officers, Officers and family members of the late War Hero, Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa, participated in this special Mass.



The legendary War Hero of contemporary times laid his life along with Major General Wijaya Wimalaratne, Rear Admiral Mohan Jayamaha, Lieutenant Colonel H R Stephen, Lieutenant Colonel G H Ariyaratne, Lieutenant Colonel Y N Palipana, Commander Asanga Lankathilaka, Lieutenant Colonel Nalin de Alwis, Lieutenant Commander C B Wijepura and Private W J Wickremasinghe after being caught in an LTTE landmine while travelling across Araly Point in Jaffna on 8 August 1992.







## Exposition of Omniscient Relics for Restored 'Deegawapiya'

The omniscient relics and the 'Chudamanikya' (crystal pinnacle) which will be restored at the 'Deegawapiya' Pagoda, and opened for public veneration at Kelaniya Rajamaha Viharaya on 29 August 2023.

Honourable Premitha Bandara Tennakoon, State Minister of Defence together with General Kamal Gunaratne (Rtd) WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc MPhil, Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army, Vice Admiral Priyantha Perera RSP USP ndu psc, Commander of the Navy and Director General of Civil Security Department attended the occasion as distinguished invitees.

The restoration and renovation of the ancient 'Deegawapiya' Pagoda been carried out to-date by troops of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Policemen and Civil Security Department personnel following directions given by the Ministry of Defence and respective authorities.







## 8<sup>th</sup> Theater Sustainment Command Delegation of the US Army Meets Commander of the Army

A visiting delegation of the 8<sup>th</sup> Theater Sustainment Command of the US Army, led by Major General Jared Helwig, Commanding General of the US Army 8<sup>th</sup> Theater Sustainment Command, together with Colonel McGunegle, 130 Engineer Brigade Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Nelson, Senior Defence Official at the US Embassy in Colombo, and Major Theresa Christie, Executive Officer called on Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army on 16 August 2023.

The Head of the delegation at first conducted a briefing on the 8<sup>th</sup> Theater Sustainment Command of the US Army and its priorities saying that the 8<sup>th</sup> Theater Sustainment Command of the US Army has been raised to deliver multinational sustainment solutions for effective execution of missions while integrating and synchronising strategic sustainment capabilities for diverse operations. Thenafter Commander of the Sri Lanka Army discussed the logistic role and capabilities of the Sri Lanka Army with special focus on current logistics.

## Iran's Military Attaché Calls on Commander of the Army

The Military Attaché at the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Colombo, Colonel Homaoun Ali Yari paid a courtesy visit to Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army on 15 August 2023 at the Army Headquarters.

Both of them during the cordial interactive meeting exchanged views on matters of bilateral importance and security interests between both countries and other concerns of mutual relevance.





## INDIA'S NDC DELEGATES MEET COMMANDER OF THE ARMY



Nine-member delegation of India's National Defence College (NDC), led by Rear Admiral Sanjaya Sachdeva, Directing Strategy, Concept and Transformations on study tour met Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army on 28 August 2023 at the Army Headquarters.

Commander of the Army during his brief and cordial interaction with Rear Admiral Sanjaya Sachdeva (NM SDS (Navy) ndc), Brigadier Rajat Kumar, Brigadier Anuj Kalia VSM and Air Commodore Ashish Srivastava VM VSM, shared views on training modules and the importance of exchanging of experience with neighbourly military organisations.

In a rare coincidence, the head of the Indian delegation, Rear Admiral Sanjaya Sachdeva (NM SDS (Navy) ndc), happened to be a course mate of Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army when he was following the National Defence University Course in Indonesia.

## GENERAL DAYA RATHNAYAKE (RTD) CALLS ON COMMANDER OF THE ARMY



General R M Daya Ratnayake (Rtd) WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndu psc, the 20<sup>th</sup> Commander of the Army and one of the most senior veterans in the Sri Lanka Light Infantry Regiment paid a courtesy call on Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army on 28 August 2023 at the Army Headquarters.

During the brief interactive meeting with the former Army Commander, present Commander of the Army, recalled the retired Senior Officer's valuable contribution to the Army holding varied and responsible appointments during his career of more than 35 years. The visiting Senior Officer thanked the Army Commander for organising the meet presenting a memento.



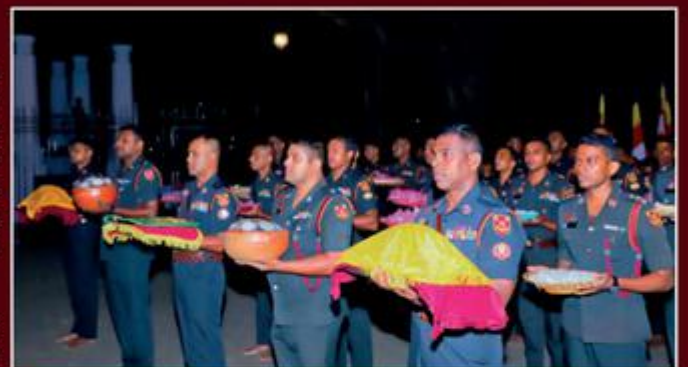


## COMMANDER OF THE ARMY DELIVERS 'COPRA' FOR DALADA PERAHERA

The Army repeating its annual practice of offering free dried coconuts (Copra) that could light up and use for illuminations of the Sri Dalada Perahera (pageant) handed over a stock of 20 tons of Copra on 11 August to the Diyawadana Nilame (Chieftain) of the Sri Dalada Maligawa (Temple of Tooth) for the 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive year during a simple ceremony, graced by Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army.

Troops of Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment (VIR) at the VIR Regimental Centre in Boyagane, Kurunegala, situated in a grove of coconut trees have been instrumental in processing those dried coconut stocks for this exclusive religious need every year as a sacred offering. Devoted troops, adhering to age-old traditions of ancient royalties who had reportedly continued to provide the parading torch bearers with Copra to lighten up the entire procession have been engaged in this offering for years.

Commander of the Army, together with Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU) at the invitation of Major General S U M N Manage WWV RWP RSP psc, Commandant of the Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force and Colonel of the Regiment Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment offered the first tray of Copra symbolically to the Chief Custodian (Diyawadana Nilame) of the temple, Mr. Pradeep Nilanga Dela Bandara, after performance of religious observances amid customary Thevawa (daily service) rituals.







# Sri Lanka Army Inter – Regiment Rugby Tournament 2023

The exciting final tussle of the Army Inter Regiment Rugby Championship Tournament - 2023, was held on 04 August 2023 at Panagoda Army Rugby Grounds amidst a huge gathering of rugby fans, Officers and Other Ranks, under the patronage of Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army who attended as the Chief Guest. The finals of Inter Regiment Rugby Championship Tournament (women's) - 2023 was held on the same day at Army Rugby Grounds Panagoda.

Sri Lanka Signal Corps (SLSC) clinched the trophy beating Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps (SLAGSC) by Sri 19 - 17 scores. Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps (SLAGSC) players also won the Championship pushing their rivals Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps (SLAWC) to be runners-up scoring 17 - 05 after a heavy tussle.

Rugby teams representing sixteen Regiments in the men's category and five teams representing five Regiments in the women's category participated in the Inter Regiment Rugby Tournament on 9 June 2023 as per guidelines given by the Major General M G W W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc, Director General General Staff (DGGS) of the Army and the Chairman of Army Rugby Committee.





Lance Corporal Jayawickrama D G C L of SLSC Regiment was selected as the Best Rugby player in the tournament and the Private Kahandawa K A N of SLAGSC was elected as the Best Female Rugby player. Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu the Commander of the Army presented Championship trophies to SLSC and SLAGSC players amidst thundering applause.

The Commander of the Army on the same occasion also awarded incentives and prizes to the group of athletes who performed well in the recent Asian Athletics Championship - 2023 (AAC) in Thailand, Para Athletic World Championship 2023 in Paris and Commonwealth Senior, Junior and Youth Championships - 2023 in India.







## Commander Visits Infantry Training Centre at Minneriya

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu the Commander of the Army, undertook a field visit to the Infantry Training Centre (ITC) at Minneriya on 25 August 2023. Brigadier W S K Liyanawaduge RSP, Commandant, Infantry Training Centre at Minneriya briefed Commander of the Army on the ongoing trainings in detail.

Commander of the Army during his visit to Infantry Training Centre (ITC) at Minneriya declared open the newly-established RPG-7 simulator for the use of trainees at the invitation of Commandant, Infantry Training Centre at Minneriya. During the visit, Commander of the Army had a close inspection of the weapon and witnessed the live firing sessions at the Infantry Training Centre at Minneriya. He further had a look at the ITC Weapon Museum and shared his thoughts with the staff.

Major General K P S A Fernando RWP RSP ndu, Director General Infantry, Major General M G W W W M C B Wickremasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc, Director General General Staff, Major General M W T C Mettananda USP ndc, Commander, Forward Maintenance Area (East), Major General M K U P Gunaratne RSP ndu psc IG, Commander, Security Forces (East), Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks also participated in the event.





# Commander of the Army Visits ATS - Maduru Oya

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army made a formal visit to the Maduru Oya Army Training School (ATS) on 25 August 2023 and inquired about the progress of their training modules and infrastructure development.

Brigadier A B J N Ariyathilaka RWP RSP, Commandant, Army Training School, Minneriya welcomed the Commander of the Army according him a Guard Turnout at the entrance and Colonel M T I Gunawardena RSP psc, Commanding Officer Army Training School, Minneriya conducted a comprehensive briefing at the 'Wisdom Hall'.

After a while, the Army Commander inspected the ongoing infrastructure facilities of the ATS and the new auditorium under construction. The Officer Commanding of those constructions during the visits received guidelines as well from the Commander of the Army. In addition, Commander of the Army, inaugurated the newly-done badminton court in the compound before he attended an All Rank tea at the gymnasium.







## Army Commander Visits Kandy New Army Base Hospital



Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage Commander of the Army on 11 August 2023 made a visit to the recently-constructed semi-functional Army Base Hospital in Pallekele, Kandy in order to receive updates and inspect its operational aspects. Brigadier W W M P W W B R Palamakumbura RWP RSP Director Management and Maintenance of Army Base Hospital Kandy warmly welcomed the Commander of the Army who observed the proceedings in the hospital complex. During this visit, he had a discussion with the Director Management and Maintenance of Army Base Hospital in Kandy and staff at the hospital conference hall.

The Army Commander also had a close look at the Out Patient Department (OPD), now fully functional and interacted with members of the medical staff and minor staff on duty.

Major General G R R P Jayawardana RWP RSP ndu, Quarter Master General at the Army Headquarters, Major General S R B Aluvihare RWP RSP ndu psc, Adjutant General, Major General W W H R R V M N D K B Niyangoda RWP RSP VSV USP ndu psc, Commander, Security Forces-Central, Major General P A C Fernando USP Director General Army Health Services and few other Senior Officers were also joined the visit.





# Welfare Directorate's e-Portal Widget Launched

A mammoth multifaceted welfare project of the Army Directorate of Welfare successfully completed on 23 August 2023 at the Army Headquarters where an e-portal widget that provides easy access for Army personnel for their 'Suwasahana Fund' facilities, loan facilities, welfare benefits, information, etc was introduced along with the simultaneous distribution of a multitude of relief incentives, essentials, spectacles, school shoes, etc to children and family members of Army personnel serving in the Army Headquarters.

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army at the invitation of Brigadier R P A R P Rajapaksa RSP, Director of Welfare graced the mega event as the Chief Guest.

The e-portal widget of Directorate of Welfare was developed by the Technical Officers in the Directorate of Information Technology (IT) of the Army under the supervision of Major General K A W S Ratnayake ndu, Chief Signal Officer and Colonel Commandant Sri Lanka Signal Corps and Colonel M R Hameem USP, Officiating Director, Directorate of IT on a conceptual guidance of the Army Commander.

In line with the same event, Commander of the Army distributed 25 spectacles, for a selected group of Army personnel who were invited to the occasion. In addition, 25 dry rations packs each worth more than Rs. 7500.00 and 25 'Bata' gift vouchers for shoes, each worth of Rs. 1000.00 were also given to them.

25 students of Army families symbolically received school aid packs, each worth more than Rs. 7500.00 out of selected 791 school students who had passed the Grade 5 Examination in the year 2022. In addition, those beneficiaries were to receive pairs of school shoes.

The 'Pushpakumara Foundation' funded for the spectacles and Bata Pvt Ltd provided assistance in distributing school shoes and gift vouchers. The rest were arranged by the Directorate of Welfare under the guidance of the Army Commander.







## Strength for War Heroes from Army Seva Vanitha Unit

Expanding the welfare and charity roles further, the Sri Lanka Army Seva Vanitha Unit donated 100 dry ration packs among selected soldiers who are working at the Army Headquarters on 04 August 2023 during a special ceremony held at the Army Headquarters. Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army and Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President, Sri Lanka Army Seva Vanitha Unit graced the event as distinguished guests for the occasion.

During the simple ceremony, Commander of the Army together with President, Sri Lanka Army Seva Vanitha Unit handed over 3 refrigerators to the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch for further promotion of the 'Ranaviru' yoghurt production project.

In addition, a cash cheque bearing value of Rs. 600,000.00 was awarded to a differently-abled War Hero of the Gajaba Regiment to complete his partially-built house.





## New Website of Army Seva Vanitha Launched



Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army, together with Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit launched face-lifted and re-designed 'Seva Vanitha' website ([www.army.lk / sevavanitha/](http://www.army.lk/sevavanitha/)) on 04 August 2023 during a simple ceremony.



The new website was designed at the request of Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit following guidelines of Brigadier I H M R K Herath USP ndc psc, Director Media and Colonel A M D B Adikari RWP RSP psc, Colonel Media. Software engineers and technical staff of the Directorate of Information Technology under the supervision of Brigadier G L S W Liyanage USP psc, Director, Directorate of Information Technology extended the active support for the project. The new website, replete with all required information consists of photo stories, welfare projects, Seva Vanitha Highlights, 'Viru Kekulu' activities, etc.

## ARMY COMMANDER DONATES MEDICINE TO APEKSHA HOSPITAL

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army, together with Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit visited Apeksha Hospital, Maharagama on 14 August 2023 with the intention to inquire about the well-being of inmates.

During the visit, a consignment of essential medicines was donated to the hospital authority. A healthy lunch was also arranged for 800 patients under the project.





# DISCIPLINED TRAINING FOR PRIME MOVER OPERATORS



The National Apprentice and Industrial Training Authority (NAITA) of Sri Lanka, initiated new 'Prime Mover Operators' Course' that matches the NVQ Level – 4 opening up overseas vistas for young employees who are interested in receiving training in heavy machinery and equipment operation. With the intention to gain such skilled training for the members serving in the Sri Lanka Army, a productive discussion was held on 14 August 2023 at the Commander's office between Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army and a team of NAITA officials, led by Mr W Ruchira Amarasekara, Chairman NAITA.

Also, during the discussion, the NAITA officials sought the training facility from Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Training School in Tisawewa, Anuradhapura for the final segment of the course. The newly-designed 'Prime Mover Operators' Course' - NVQ Level 4 extends accordingly for six-months. As per the discussions, Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Training School in Tisawewa would cover the training for the candidates within 47 days with the support of Army instructors before they finally qualify for the NVQ Level - 4.

NAITA officials further stressed the importance of giving the training to make a 'disciplined' driver through the Army for prime mover machinery operators. The prime mover machinery operators pointed out enormous opportunities available in the foreign markets for such skilled training.

## RELIEF PACKS DISTRIBUTED AMONG 100 MEMBERS



The Sri Lanka Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU) distributed 100 dry ration packs among deserved members serving at Sri Lanka Army Headquarters on 15 August 2023. At the invitation of Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President, Sri Lanka Army Seva Vanitha Unit, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army graced the event as the Chief Guest and distributed those relief packs among the beneficiaries.

At the same occasion, Commander of the Army was invited to gift a tablet computer, with a view to encourage a daughter of a soldier for her higher education. The Sri Lanka Army Seva Vanitha Unit has coordinated the award of the gift.



# FORMER DIRECTOR GENERAL LEGAL EDUCATES MEMBERS OF SL ARMY



The Army Directorate of Legal with the objective of educating tri service personnel conducted lectures on 'Duty and Responsibility of Law Enforcement within the Scope of the Armed Forces Law Officers' on 18 August 2023 at the Army Headquarters.

Major General M A M Peiris (Rtd) USP, former Director General at the Directorate of Legal, Army Headquarters and former Judge Advocate General delivered an informative lecture on the 'soldier's disciplinary action procedures and law enforcement' and explained how those aspects could be further improved.

While the lecture session was on, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army joined the audience and coloured the session with his graceful attentive participation. The lecture programme was organised by Colonel N S Nallapperuma USP ndc, Director, Directorate of Legal. More than 85 legal officers of the Army, Navy and Air Force participated in the sessions and interacted with the guest lecturer through questions and answers.



## GENEROUS DONATION FROM ARMY SEVA VANITHA UNIT



The Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU) donated artificial limb, a tablet and laptop computer among most deserved Army and civil personnel on 28 August 2023 at the Army Headquarters. Adding highlight to the occasion Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army graced the event as the Chief Guest. This welfare project was arranged following the conceptual guidance of Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit.

During the welfare programme, a retired civil employee who served at the Directorate of Budget and Finance for 19 years, had undergone a leg amputation due to diabetes, received an artificial limb in view of his financial difficulties. Also, a daughter of a civil employee who is pursuing her higher studies at the University of Kelaniya was awarded a tablet computer. Similarly, the university undergraduate son of a medically-boarded out war veteran of the Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment who had sustained permanent injuries was also awarded a laptop computer to continue with his higher education at the University of Kelaniya during the same ceremony.



“*Lieutenant Hettigoda Liyanage's entry into the British Army in the early 1940s marked the beginning of an extraordinary journey. However, pinnacle of his career came on a memorable day, on 8 December 1943, when he was granted commission of great distinction by none other than his Majesty George the Sixth the revered British Emperor.*

*The promotion to the Second Lieutenant represented a profound honour and as a resounding testament to Lieutenant Hettigoda Liyanage's exceptional contribution and his unwavering dedication to his duties as a serviceman. Practically as a Sinhalese individual serving in the British Army in that era, in essence of this event marked a momentous juncture in Lieutenant Hettigoda Liyanage's military career.”*

## LIVING LEGEND DESCENDING FROM ROYAL HERITAGE IN THE SRI LANKA ARMY

Not everyone can partake in the honour of military service. It demands unwavering commitment and profound courage. This is the story of a legend who nourished the future of the Ceylon Army.

Volunteer Force was established in Ceylon on 01 April 1881 under the British Crown for the first time in the history with the combination of British and locals. It was the maiden Volunteer Infantry Battalion and was under command to Governor of Ceylon for British Crown. The Governor of Ceylon accepted the orders from the British Colonial Secretary. The Infantry Battalion and its organisation consisted of a cavalry platoon, an artillery platoon, an ambulance platoon, an engineer platoon and a band. Later a cadet group was also included.

The Volunteer Infantry Battalion gradually evolved by undergoing various changes, and it is clear that during that period many Sri Lankans have also fulfilled a remarkable mission in the British Army. Those



few people who claimed to be related to the British Army were engaged in the Boer War in South Africa as well as the World War I and II and other foreign missions. These Ceylon soldiers who were in the Royal Army have even been awarded with the honorary titles of the British Crown and have also been adorned with medals.

Among them there is an exceptional individual whom everyone can speak of with pride.



Second Lieutenant Hettigoda Liyanage standing second from right last row



He served in the Royal Army, a rare local amongst the few who did so during that era. Even though he has passed away, his legacy endures as his lineage continues to provide leadership to the Sri Lanka Army with Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Sri Lanka Army, who is his son. This demonstrates the pride and reverence held for Lieutenant Hettigoda Liyanage.

Lieutenant Hettigoda Liyanage enlisted in the British Army in year 1940. On 08 December 1943, he commissioned as a Second Lieutenant of the Royal Army. It was prestigious honour, especially for a Sinhalese individual serving in the Royal Army. The British government bestowed upon Lieutenant Hettigoda Liyanage, various official documents pertaining to his appointment, accompanied by numerous esteemed titles.

The honorary titles accorded for Lieutenant Hettigoda Liyanage effectively illustrate the due recognition that the British government had for him.

Furthermore, during the period of British governance and in the initial stages of the Dominion rule, the British King bestowed medals upon Lieutenant Hettigoda Liyanage. Bestowing medals and honorary titles upon both officers and soldiers was a distinctive practice at the time.



*Little Vikum Liyanage (middle) with his parents and siblings*

Lieutenant Hettigoda Liyanage also received four honorary awards from the British Monarchy, which consisted of rare medals, recognising his exceptional bravery, integrity, and unwavering dedication demonstrated during his military service.

- ◆ Honorary title of Colonial Deputy Battalion Officer
- ◆ Honorary title of Colonial Long Service Medal 1899 - 1930
- ◆ Efficiency Decoration (ED)
- ◆ Medal of Efficiency for officials 1930 - 1972

*"In the name of His Majesty George the Sixth by the grace of God of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the seas King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India, by his excellency Sir Andrew Caldecott, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, Governor in and over the island of Ceylon and its dependencies*

*By Virtue of the power and authority vested in me under the provision of the Ordinance No 8 of 1910, entitled an ordinance to make better provision for the good order and discipline of the Local Forces in Ceylon, I the said Governor responding special trust and confidence in the loyalty and courage for you, the said Hettigoda Liyanage Sugathapala have thought to fit nominate constitute and appoint and by these presents do constitute appoint and commission you the said Hettigoda Liyanage Sugathapala to be Second Lieutenant in the Ceylon Light Infantry Corps of the Ceylon Defence Force,*

*And I the said Governor do hereby give and grant to you the said Hettigoda Liyanage Sugathapala as such Second Lieutenant or in such higher rank to which you may be hereafter promoted or appointed of which a Notification will be made in the Ceylon Government Gazette all the rights, duties and powers and privileges which attach and or right belong to the said office. And I the said Governor, do hereby require you to train, exercise and discipline the inferior officers and other persons armed and arrayed under your command and to obey all the lawful orders of your Superior Officers according to the rules and discipline of war and in compliance with the laws in that behalf made"*



On 04 February 1948, with the independence and the establishment of the Ceylon Army, the chapter of Sri Lankan military personnel serving under British rule officially came to an end.

Currently, it remains uncertain whether any individual from the British Army who had undergone this unique experience are still alive. Nevertheless, the recollections of these individuals will undoubtedly hold significance for the present generation and serve as a commendable example.

Lieutenant General Vikum Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army holds a deep and respectful memory of his father. His father's character and sense of honour directly played a key role in his decision to join the Sri Lanka Army. Inspired significantly by his father, young Vikum Liyanage shared his father, Lieutenant Hettigoda Liyanage's aspiration to be in the military, akin to their family tradition.

When young Vikum Liyanage joined the Sri Lanka Army, his father had already retired from the British Army. Nevertheless, the memories of his father's military career were etched deeply in his heart. At the time Vikum Liyanage entered the Sri Lanka Army as a Second Lieutenant in 1986, his father had already entered the latter stages of his life. He had the chance to see his father only on one or two occasions during holidays and training period. However, the enduring recollections of his father, which he still proudly carries with him today, will never fade away.

Lieutenant Hettigoda Liyanage had a distinctive daily routine. Even after retiring from the Army, the inspiration he had acquired continued to shine through in his everyday life.

He commenced his day by rising early in the morning, placing exercises as a top priority. He was particularly drawn to bodybuilding exercises. Additionally, his distinctive attire, comprising European clothing, shoes, and a dignified walking style, made a notable impression on anyone who saw him. This routine served as a source of inspiration for his son, young Vikum Liyanage.

Growing up under the influence of his father, young Vikum Liyanage absorbed his father's characteristics from the early age. From morning exercise to the dinner table, Lieutenant Hettigoda Liyanage inspired his son Vikum Liyanage to pursue the virtuous etiquettes of the Royal military. Regardless of his youthful mischievousness, the young son was careful to adhere to his father's guidance, recognising that his father held the position of an officer in the Royal Army.

Young Vikum Liyanage also possessed an inspiring recollection of his father's English-style attire from his early years. His father's trousers, fastened with

suspenders, were widely favoured Western fashion trend of that era, and young Vikum Liyanage himself favoured this style too. This presents a unique historical opportunity and a pivotal moment for a son of a father who had a deep connection with the British Empire to be leading the Sri Lanka Army. The fact that Lieutenant General Vikum Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, was able to rise to a position of Commander of the Army suggests that he has successfully adapted to these changing dynamics while holding onto the values and guidance passed down by his father.

Overall, the intergenerational influence and the ability to draw upon the wisdom and experiences of previous generations can be a valuable asset for leaders in any field, including the military as they navigate the complexities of the contemporary world.

Lieutenant General Vikum Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army born in the historically significant Matale region and following his father's footsteps, serving in the Sri Lanka Army for years, gaining diverse experiences. He has also been actively involved in combat, enduring injuries twice from enemy gunfire.

However, It is not an exaggeration to say that the pennant and royal inheritance gained from his father had casted a giant shadow on him to properly fulfill his loyal responsibilities for the country being the leader of the valorous Sri Lanka Army.



Credentials issued by the Crown commissioning Hettigoda Liyanage into Ceylon Army



■ Written by Lieutenant Colonel Sujith Chaminda  
Translated by Captain Lakmali Kudaligama



## ARMY COMMANDER ENCOURAGES SCHOOL KARATE CHAMPIONS AWARDING INCENTIVES

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army made a formal visit to the Maduru Oya Army Training School (ATS) on 25 August 2023 and met 31 students of nearby Alawakumbura Central College who performed extremely well in the All Island 'Katha' Karate Championship, held in June 2023 winning 12 Gold and 19 Silver medals. In line with the same event, the Commander of the Army awarded a stock of sports equipment, worth more than Rs. 100,000.00 to the school in an attempt to stimulate budding sportsmen and athletes in this remote school with children of under-privileged families.

The Commander's special attachment to this rural school began early this year when he was informed of the transport difficulty of the school Karate team. The school Karate team was unable to afford the cost for passage to Colombo to participate in the All Island 'Katha' Karate Championship. They sought the assistance of the Commander of the Army by way of transport as their poverty-stricken parents were unable to afford the transport facility for them. Responding the request Commander of the Army promptly facilitated their passage in an Army bus to Colombo through Army coordination.



## 52<sup>ND</sup> COMMANDANT OF THE SRI LANKA ARMY VOLUNTEER FORCE ASSUMED THE DUTIES



Major General D M K D B Pussella RWP RSP assumed the office of Commandant as the 52<sup>nd</sup> successor of the Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force (SLAVF) amidst military formalities accorded in honour of his career accession on 17 August 2023 at the Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force Headquarters. The Senior Officer belongs to the clan of 'Archers': Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment. The customary formalities commenced with the reviewing of Guard Turnout accorded to the incoming Commandant on his arrival to the camp premises. The Commandant was received by the Principal Staff Officer, Coordinating Officer - Sri Lanka Rifle Corps and Sri Lanka Army Pioneer Corps and the Commanding Officer of Headquarters Battalion of the Army Volunteer Force. Major General D M K D B Pussella held the office of the Commander at the Security Forces Headquarters (West) and the Colonel Commandant of Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps prior to the appointment of Commandant, SLAVF. A gathering of officers and other ranks attended the occasion to congratulate on his new appointment.





# Remembrance of Iconic Legends



Treasured memories of the legendary War Hero of contemporary history, late Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa were recalled and honoured on his 31<sup>st</sup> death anniversary day in a fitting tribute at his life-size statue at Anuradhapura with the participation of Major General S W M Fernando WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc, Military Secretary and the Colonel Commandant of Sri Lanka Armoured Corps on 8 August 2023 with the participation of Officers and Other Ranks. Major General W P A D W Nanayakkara RSP VSV USP ndu Commander, Security Forces (Wanni) graced the event as the Chief Guest.



The programme was organised in memory of all fallen War Heroes who sacrificed their lives to secure the independence and territorial integrity of the nation. During the 31<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Late Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa held on 08 August 2023 at the War Memorial near Arali point, Major General S R K Hettiarachchi RWP RSP VSV USP ndu psc Commander Security Forces (Jaffna) graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Officers and Other Ranks joined the commemorative ceremony.





*"Janajaya Sadana Samaggha Sri Deshabandu" Honorary Patriotic Title was awarded to Major General S R K Hettiarachchi RWP RSP VSV USP ndu psc Commander Security Forces (Jaffna) and former Commander Security Forces (East) on 30 July 2023 at Cultural Centre – Welikanda. Venerable Sinhapura Chethiyalankara Nayaka Thero of Chief Incumbent of the Dibulagala Aranya Senasanaya and Thamankaduwa area awarded the patriotic title.*

## COMMANDER, SECURITY FORCES (EAST) AWARDED WITH "JANAJAYA SADANA SAMAGGHA SRI DESHABANDU"

In recognition of the immense service rendered for the development of Welikanda area and the socio-cultural service, "Janajaya Sadana Samaggha Sri Deshabandu" Honorary Patriotic Title was awarded to Major General S R K Hettiarachchi RWP RSP VSV USP ndu psc Commander Security Forces (Jaffna) and former Commander Security Forces (East) on 30 July 2023 at Cultural Centre – Welikanda. Venerable Sinhapura Chethiyalankara Nayaka Thero, Chief Incumbent of the Dibulagala Aranya Senasanaya and Thamankaduwa area awarded the patriotic title.



Further, the "Janajaya Sadana Samaggha Sri Deshabandu" Honorary Patriotic Title award was conferred on Major General U D Wijesekera, Commander, Security Forces (East) on 30 July 2023 at Cultural Centre - Welikanda for the dedication and devotion to the development of Welikanda area, and in recognition of tireless service in socio-cultural and religious matters.

In addition, the letter of appointment for prefects were also awarded and official badges were also pinned for dhamma school Students. Maha Sangha of Dumbulagala area, Staff Officers of Security Force Headquarters (East), and devoted people participated in the event.

## INDIAN PEACEKEEPING WAR HEROES COMMEMORATED IN JAFFNA



Fallen War Heroes of the Indian Peacekeeping Force (IPKF) who fought against LTTE terrorists during 1987-1990 in Sri Lanka were commemorated and their sacrifices were remembered at the Indian Peacekeeping Force (IPKF) Monument in Palaly in line with the 76<sup>th</sup> Independence Day on 15 August 2023.

Security Forces Headquarters (Jaffna) in collaboration with the office of Consul General of India to Sri Lanka in Jaffna, organised the event. Mr. Shri Raakesh Natraj Consul General of India to Sri Lanka in Jaffna and Major General S R K Hettiarachchi RWP RSP VSV USP ndu psc Commander Security Forces (Jaffna) paid floral tribute to the fallen War Heroes of IPKF, placing floral wreaths at the IPKF Monument.





## COMMANDER OF SECURITY FORCES (WANNI) VISITS ANURAPURA

Newly appointed Commander of Security Forces (Wanni), Major General W P A D W Nanyakkara RSP VSV USP ndu visited Atamsathana (Eight Sacred Places in Holy City Anurashapura) on 28 July 2023.

During his visit Major General W P A D W Nanayakkara RSP VSV USP Commander of Security Forces (Wanni), took the blessings of Most Venerable Pallegama Hemarathana Thero, Anuradhapura Atamasthanadhipathi (Head of Eight Sacred Places in Holy City Anurashapura), and Chief Incumbents of Ruwanweli Maha Seya, Thuparamaya, Gangaramaya, Abahaygiriya, Isurumuniya, Jayanhi Viharaya, Mirisawetiya and Mihinthale.

## COMMANDER SECURITY FORCES (WANNI) VISITS 54 INFANTRY DIVISION

Major General W P A D W Nanayakkara RSP VSV USP ndu, the Commander Security Force (Wanni), made his first official visit to 54 Infantry Division, under command Brigades and Battalions on 24 July 2023 after assuming the duties.

Major General G W A Senavirathne USP psc, General Officer Commanding 54 Infantry Division, extended a warm welcome to the Commander, Security Force (Wanni) on arrival by presenting ceremonial honours at the entrance. Thereafter, a comprehensive briefing was done in relevance to the Operational and Administrative tasks carried out by the 54 Infantry Division by the General Officer Commanding, 54 Infantry Division. Before the culmination of the visit Commander Security Force (Wanni), addressed the under command troops. During the visit, Commander Security Force (Wanni), met Rt. Rev. Dr. Fidelis Lionel Emmanuel Fernando Bishop of Mannar, at Bishop House and received his blessings.





## AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VISITS 1 CORPS



Her Excellency Julie Chung the Ambassador of the United States of America together with Defense Attaché Lieutenant Colonel Anthony C Nelson, and assistant Defence Attaché Mr. Seth Nevins, paid a courtesy visit to the 1 Corps Headquarters, Kilinochi on 24 August 2023 during her visit to the Northern province.

During the cordial meeting, Major General S B Amunugama RWP RSP ndu Commander, 1 Corps and Her Excellency Julie Chung exchanged views on the bilateral relationship that exists between both countries and social welfare projects. Mementoes were also exchanged in compliance with the customary formalities as tokens of appreciation at the end of the cordial meeting.

## Commander, 1 Corps Visits 6 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment

Major General S B Amunugama RWP RSP ndu Commander, 1 Corps visited 6 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment on 5 August 2023 and engaged in an observation tour in the camp. The Commander, 1 Corps was warmly welcomed by the troops and Commanding Officer of 6 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment according him a Guard Turnout at the entrance.

After the observation, Commander, 1 Corps addressed the troops and appeared in a group photo. Before the departure, Commander, 1 Corps participated in an all rank lunch. Further, he witnessed the opening of first "Pedura Musical Show". General Officer Commanding, 58 Infantry Division, Brigadier General Staff, I Corps and Commanding Officer of 6 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment took part in the event.





## Commander, Security Forces (Mullaitivu) Visits FMA Logistics



Major General M K Jayawardena RSP VSV USP ndu, Commander, Security Forces (Mullaitivu) conducted a familiarisation tour to the Forward Maintenance Area - Mullaitivu Headquarters and its undercommand Battalions on 02 August 2023.

After concluding the visit to Forward Maintenance Area, Mullaitivu Headquarters, Commander, Security Forces (Mullaitivu) also visited Army Base Hospital in Mullaitivu, 6 Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Corps camp, 7 Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps camp and 6 Sri Lanka Army Service Corps camp.



3 (V) Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment warmed a newly built house for a deserved beneficiary on 31 July 2023. The house was constructed under the guidance of Commander, Security Forces (Mullaitivu) by the supervision of General Officer Commanding, 68 Infantry Division under the civil-military cooperation projects.

The troops displayed incredible generosity by gifting a two million worth house to Mr. Thyagaraja living in 05 Division, Iranapale, Puthukkudiyiruppu. Troops of 3 (V) Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment extended the much needed manpower for the constructions. The philanthropists donated the required furniture and essentials for the new house. Major General M K Jayawardhana RSP VSV USP ndu Commander, Security Forces (Mullaitivu) graced the event as the Chief Guest.



**House  
for a Deserved  
Family**





## SLAGSC-SVB Inaugurates New Yoghurt Project in Panagoda

Aiming to raise funds to welfare projects of the Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch, a new yoghurt production project commenced on 15 August 2023 at the Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps Regimental Center, on 15 August 2023.

Major General D M K D B Pussella RWP RSP, Commander of the Security Forces (West) and Colonel Commandant of the Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps graced the event as the Chief Guest together with Mrs. Himali Pussella the President of Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch.

Senior members of Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks participated in the event.



## 144 Infantry Brigade Troops Educates on Maintaining a Healthy Mind



A thought-provoking lecture on "various aspects of maintaining a healthy mind and understanding the impact of emotions on our lives" by Dr. J M Nilam, the Chief Commissioner of St. John's Ambulance – Kandy and Advisor of Life Guide Unit took place on 10 August 2023 at 2 (V) Battalion Sri Lanka Light Infantry lecture hall, Kelanimulla.

The lecture shed valuable insights on fostering healthy relationship within the family unit and highlighted the importance of maintaining a strong bond with one's spouse. Further, it equipped with the necessary knowledge and tools to lead a fulfilling and well-rounded life. The topics covered during the lecture were carefully chosen to address key aspects of mental and emotional well-being, as well as the significance of healthy family relationships. Nearly, 150 Army personnel including the Brigade Commander 144 Infantry Brigade, Senior Officers, Officers and Mr. Ruwan Sri Balasuriya, District Commissioner of St. John's Ambulance – Gampaha attended the event.



## Commander Security Forces (Central) Visits Historic City Of Kandy



Major General W W H R R V M N D K B Niyangoda RWP RSP VSV USP ndu psc who recently assumed duties as Commander Security Force (Central) made a visit to Kandy, the significant city of Central Province, during 12 to 17 August 2023.

During his visit to the historic city of Kandy, he paid obeisance to the Mahanayake Thero of Asgiriya Chapter Most Venerable Warakagoda Sri Gnanaratana Mahanayaka Thero on 12 August 2023. Subsequently, the senior officer paid a call on the Mahanayake Thero of Malwatte Chapter, Most Venerable Thibbotuwawe Sri Sumangala Mahanayaka Thero at the Malwatte monastery, on 15 August 2023. In the visit, the Commander had an opportunity to interact with Anu Nayaka Theros of the Malwatta Chapter Venerable Dimbulkumbure Sri Saranankara Wimaladhamma Thero and Venerable Dr. Niyangoda Dharmakeerthi Sri Sangarakkitha Vijithasiri Thero. The Chief Prelates invoked blessings on the new appointment of Commander Security Forces (Central), Brigadier W M S N Aragoda RWP RSP USP, Commander, 111 Infantry Brigade also joined the occasion.

## DHAMMA SERMON TO DEVELOP CALM AND FOCUSED MIND



Security Force Headquarters (Central) organised a Dhamma sermon under theme of "Sebala Sithata Daham Sisila" at the 17 Engineers Services Regiment camp premises on 08 July 2023. Venerable Welimada Saddaseela Thero conducted the Dhamma sermon and the troops of Security Force Headquarters (Central) participated in the sermon.



Officers including Commanding Officers of 8 Sri Lanka Army Service Corps, 7 Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police, 2 (V) Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, 4 (V) Sri Lanka Ordnance Corps and Military Base Hospital, Diyatalawa participated in together with an audience of more than 600 troops.



## Dream Home for a Deserved Family



Following the guidelines of Major General Y A B M Yahampath RWP RSP ndu psc General Officer Commanding, 52 Infantry Division, foundation stone was laid for a new house for poverty – stricken family resided in Mirusuwil on 02 August 2023. Imagine Compassion Non-governmental Organisation extended the financial generosity for the project. 11 Field Regiment Sri Lanka Engineers of the 523 Infantry Brigade undertook the task of constructing the new house using their technical expertise and manpower. Senior Officers, Officers, Other Ranks, family members and villagers participated in the cornerstone-laying ceremony.

## 5 (V) Gajaba Regiment Turning Lights to a Blind Family



Troops of the 5 (V) Gajaba Regiment, together with the troops of Corps of Engineer Service Regiment, attached to the 62 Infantry Division provided their workforce and technical expertise to renovate a house of a disabled family in Galawewa, Kebithigollewa. A house occupied by a mother and a son, both blind since birth needed repairs and renovation after the house was attacked by a wild elephant several months ago. Mr. Joga Perera and Mr. Susantha Jayawardana, Directors of Auto Lanka Land Vehicle Imports-Pepiliyana provided financial support for raw materials required for the house.

## 24 Infantry Division Help Students in Aranthalawa



Troops of the 24 Infantry Division organised a distribution of school accessories among 161 deserving students in Aranthalawa Nuwaragalathenna School, Ampara on 31 July 2023. Each gift pack worth of Rs. 15,000.00, distributed among the deserved students in order to encourage their studies. The 95-group of the Colombo Ananda College provided sponsorship for those essentials. Every pack was included with school books, bags, shoes, pencils and pen, etc. On the same day, the sponsors gifted the school library with a set of library books and special gift packs to school teachers by the donors.



In line with the same occasion the gifts distributed for the staff of the school appreciating their immense contribution for the school. Major General W Chandrasiri RSP USP psc General Officer commanding of 24 Infantry Division and Mr. Ishan Perera participated in the event representing Anandiyans 95 group.

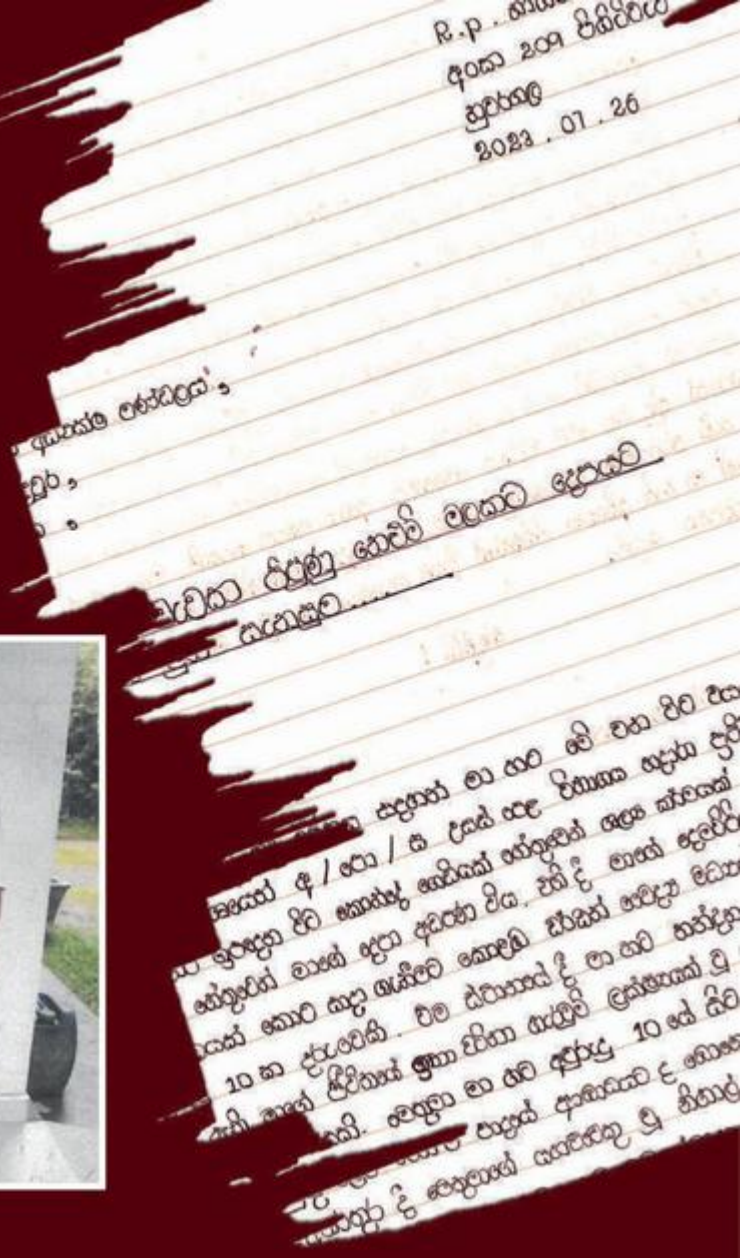


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# Strength from the Sri Lanka Army to Walk Again

Miss. R P Bhagya Sewwandi a hemiplegia patient resided at No. 209, Pihiti Weva, Nuwaragala entered medical laboratory of Sri Lanka Army, Galle for her further treatments. After taking a medication for a year, she was finally able to walk in her feet after spending 10 years in a wheel chair.

In appreciation of the sincere effort made by Sri Lanka Army for making her walks as a normal, she has written a letter of gratitude to Directorate of Welfare, Sri Lanka Army Headquarters.



## ENCOURAGING THROUGH ASSISTANCE: ILLUMINATING THE PATH TO A BRIGHT FUTURE

Retired Staff Sergeant Jayaweera E L A of 2 (V) Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps donated equipment to develop a Digital Smart Class Room at R/ Dodampe Primary School spending his gratuity amount Rs. 425,000.00. received after the retirement. The Digital Smart Class Room developed at R/ Dodampe Primary School was declared open on 19 June 2023. The meticulous community work he initiated providing the assistance to build a most required infrastructure in a remote school, was highly appreciated by the community in the area.





## 211 INFANTRY BRIGADE DONATED EDUCATIONAL ACCESSORIES



Under the generous sponsorship of People's Bank, troops of 211 Infantry Brigade donated educational accessories and school bags among 132 needy students at A/ Kuda rathmal klae, Padaviya, M/Janakapura, Welioya, and M/ Helambawewa Schools on 15 August 2023.

Brigadier I N Kandanaarachchi RSP psc, Commander, 211 Infantry Brigade implemented the project under the guidance of General Officer Commanding, 21 Infantry Division. Troops of 9 and 5 (V) Gajaba Regiment organised the event.

## NEW COORDINATION BUILDING AT 1 SRI LANKA RIFLE CORPS



Face-lifted Coordinating Headquarters of Sri Lanka Rifle Corps and Sri Lanka Army Pioneer Corps was declared open on 17 August 2023 by Colonel J K N S Jayasinghe KSC Coordinating Officer of Sri Lanka Rifle Corps and Sri Lanka Army Pioneer Corps. Financial generosity and the manpower for the construction were rendered by the troops of Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force. Coordinating Headquarters of Sri Lanka Rifle Corps and Sri Lanka Army Pioneer Corps was established in 1 Sri Lanka Rifle Corps under many difficulties.

## COMMANDER, 242 INFANTRY BRIGADE VISITS UNDERCOMMAND BATTALION



Colonel K P L Amunupure RWP RSP USP the Commander, 242 Infantry Brigade - Komari marked his maiden visit to 8 Battalion Sri Lanka National Guard at Kanchirankuda on 27 July 2023 after assumption of his duties. Commander, 242 Infantry Brigade was warmly welcomed at the main entrance. After inspecting the battalion, Commanding Officer, 8 Battalion Sri Lanka National Guard briefed the process of the 8 Battalion Sri Lanka National Guard to Commander, 242 Infantry Brigade. Before the departure, Commander, 242 Infantry Brigade addressed the troops.

## 22 INFANTRY DIVISION CELEBRATES ITS 26<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

22 Infantry Division celebrated its 26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 23 July 2023 amid religious and military formalities under the guidance of Major General G M N Perera RWP RSP USP ndc, General Officer Commanding (GOC), 22 Infantry Division.

'General Officer Commanding Challenge Trophy Cricket Tournament' was also held from 14 July 2023 to 15 July 2023 with the participation of 10 cricket teams in line with the anniversary. In addition, a 'shramadana' campaign was conducted at "Missionaries of Charity" Elders' Home in order to clean the premises. Similarly, a stock of school-accessories was donated to the children at 'Revatha' children's orphanage on 18 July 2023 as part of the anniversary programme. An all-night 'Pirith' chanting ceremony and 'Heel Daana' (breakfast) to the members of the Venerable Maha Sangha, was also organised to



invoke spiritual blessings. Major General U D Wijesekera RWP RSP USP rcds psc, Commander Security Forces (East) graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.





## A Religious Programme in Memory of Late Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa

In line with the 31<sup>st</sup> Death Anniversary of late Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa, 24 Infantry Division organised a Buddhist religious programme on 08 August 2023 as a poignant reminder of his sacrifices and dedication.

Performing a religious programme to commemorate the late Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa, more than 200 troops including Officers and Other Ranks participated in a heartfelt gesture that honours his memory and seeks blessings for his eternal journey. The legendary War Hero laid his life with nine Officers and Other Ranks in an LTTE landmine while traveling across Araly Point in Jaffna on 8 August 1992.

## COMMENCEMENT OF ADVANCED INFANTRY COMPANY TRAINING COURSE NO - 04

As per the direction given by Major General S B Amunugama RWP RSP ndu, Commander 1 Corps, and the guidance of Major General W T W G Ihalage RWP RSP, General Officer Commanding 58 Infantry Division, Advanced Infantry Company Training Course No - 04 commenced on 23 June 2023 at the Sri Lanka Army Recruit Training Center - Diyathalawa with the participation of 06 Officers and 221 Other Ranks of 9 Battalion the Gemunu Watch.

Brigadier A M C Abeykoon RWP RSP USP Commander, 582 Infantry Brigade delivered the opening address. 6 Officers and 221 Other Ranks participated in the event.





## **LIEUTENANT COLONEL (DR) K. SUTHARSHAN BAGS AMERICAN'S INSPIRING UROLOGIST OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Consultant Genitourinary Surgeon at the Colombo Army Hospital, Lieutenant Colonel (Dr) Kugadas Sutharshan who has earlier entered the Guinness Book by removing the world's largest and heaviest kidney stone (calculus) has been nominated for 'American's Inspiring Urologist of the Year' award, presented by United Research Council of the USA on 23 August 2023.

'The American Awards' nominated Lieutenant Colonel (Dr) Kugadas Sutharshan for securing the International Talented Personality Awards of the American Awards - 2023 to honour the achievers who play a prominent role in their respective fields Individual/ Institution/ Organisation for unique skills, excellence, experience and creativity.

'The American Awards' while naming him for most inspiring Urologist of the Year Award claims that they are pleased to honour 'such great personalities with their international standards and let those achievers success be known by the people around the worldwide'.



**WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS**  
On Your Award Winning

**American's Inspiring Urologist  
of the Year Award**

**Dr Kugadas Sutharshan**  
Consultant Genitourinary Surgeon  
Army Hospital Colombo  
Sri Lanka

Proudly organized by American Awards Organization

Your profile gets nominated for securing  
the International Talented Personality Awards  
of the American Awards 2023.

We are pleased to gratify your outstanding excellence  
with our globally recognized award!

We look forward to your future endeavors!



## **CTS ARRANGES ORAL HYGIENE CLINIC FOR AMPARA REGION TROOPS**



Troops at the Combat Training School (CTS) in Ampara, together with the officials at the Medical Officer of Health Office, Ampara arranged an Oral Cancer Dental Clinic on 09 August 2023 at the CTS premises under the guidance of Brigadier D R N Hettiarachchi RWP RSP USP, Commandant, and Combat Training School. More than 300 Army personnel from 24 Infantry Division, 241 and 242, Infantry Brigades, 5 Gemunu Watch, 14 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment, 8,11 and 16 Sri Lanka National Guard, Deegavapi Team and Officers, Other Ranks serving in the Combat Training School participated in the Oral Cancer Dental Clinic.

## **RENOVATED BUILDING VESTED FOR THE TROOPS**



The cafeteria, saloon and Corporal Club, established for the welfare of the permanent staff, and the course candidates of the Sri Lanka Army Training School were renovated and warmed for the beneficiaries under the directions of Commandant, Sri Lanka Army Training School on 08 August 2023. Brigadier K A W N H Bandaranayaka USP Commandant, Sri Lanka Army Training School graced the event as the Chief Guest.



## REMAINING GROUP OF 4<sup>TH</sup> CCC CONTINGENT IN MALI RETURNS HOME



The second remaining group of the 4<sup>th</sup> contingent of the Combat Convoy Company (CCC) in the United Nations (UN) Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) upon completion of their service tenure returned to the island on 31 August 2023.

Accordingly, 11 Officers and 62 Other Ranks returned home soon after the 5<sup>th</sup> CCC troops assumed their duties in Mali.

Major General S Kasthurimudali RSP ndc psc, General Officer Commanding of 68 Infantry Division, Brigadier W B J K Wimalaratne RWP RSP, Centre Commandant of Gemunu Watch, Brigadier G L S W Liyanage USP psc, Director, Directorate of Overseas Operations with several Officers and relatives were at the Bandaranaike International Airport to receive the returnees. The 4<sup>th</sup> Combat Convoy Company included 20 Officers and 223 Other Ranks, and the contingent was mainly composed of Gemunu Watch troops. They left for Mali on 23 May 2022.

## UN OFFICIAL OF MINUSMA MEETS DIRECTOR OF OVERSEAS OPERATIONS



The UN official, Mr. Abdoulaye Taher Jimmy Rodrigue called on the Director Overseas Operations of the Army, Brigadier G L S W Liyanage USP psc on 28 August 2023 at Army Headquarters.

Mr Jimmy Rodrigue during his cordial meeting with the Director Overseas Operations discussed modalities pertaining to the smooth rotation of deployments of Sri Lanka Army Combat Convoy Company troops in Mali (MINUSMA) on the eve of a dispatch of a new contingent. Further, the Director acknowledged the continued support, being extended by the United Nations in deploying troops for the United Nations peacekeeping operations.

## 5<sup>TH</sup> COMBAT CONVOY COMPANY (CCC) IN MALI COMMENCES CONVOY OPERATIONS



The 5<sup>th</sup> Sri Lankan Combat Convoy Company in Mali commenced their first convoy operation on 07 August 2023 after successful completion of the induction training schedule. The initial convoy operation was effected to facilitate re-supply of logistics to Kidal, Aguloke and Tessalit United Nations bases and other key installations of the MINUSMA. 228 civilian logistic vehicles that carry essentials to the people were given escort under the direct supervision of the Force Headquarters in Bamako.

During the operation, the 577 km total distance was covered by 19 Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs) and 17 Military Self-sustaining Trucks. 18 Officers and 141 soldiers took part in the operation and other convoy protection duties in a challenging environment from Gao Super Camp to Tessalit.





**CEYLON TUSKERS ARE THE  
PRIDE OF OUR NATION**

*Celebrating*  
***World Elephant Day!***

*on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2023*





## SLACAL - SVB Provides More Relief Packs to Women Soldiers



Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch launched a welfare project to distribute dry ration packs among 275 women soldiers and civil staff serving in the Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch. The programme was implemented under the patronage of Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of Army Seva Vanitha Unit.

Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU) graced the event as the Chief Guest, together with Major General W B S M Abeysekera RSP VSV USP Director General Financial Management and Colonel Commandant of Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock and Mrs. Shanthi Abeysekera, Chairperson of Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch.





# 'SENEHASE KEDELLA'

## - AN EVENING WITH AESTHETIC VALUES

The Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU), together with 'Derana' Media network and the Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps Seva Vanitha Branch with the intention of enlightening both lady Officers and women soldiers on the importance of aesthetic aspects of life while at work or home staged an interactive musical session, 'Senehase Kedella', led by well-known lyricist, Mr Dhammika Bandara on 28 July 2023 at Panagoda.

Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit with a group of members of Army Seva Vanitha Unit graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The session was joined by over 800 Lady Officers and women soldiers representing various Regiments in the Army.

The famous lyricist referring to a selected set of songs that appeal to mental balance, womanhood, balance of professional life, symbolic interpretations, articulated in songs, literary value for conduct of life, love and affection, motherhood, romance, etc explained in detail how those songs came into being and root causes that gave birth to those melodic songs.

Major General D M K D B Pussella RWP RSP, Commander, Security Forces (West), together with Mrs. Himali Pussella, a senior Army Seva Vanitha Unit member, Brigadier I H M R K Herath USP ndc psc, Director Media, Brigadier N Mahavithana, Brigadier Coordinator to Army Seva Vanitha Unit, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks also took part in the event.





## PRESIDENT, ARMY SEVA VANITHA UNIT MEETS WAR HEROES AT 'ABIMANSALA-III'



Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU) paid a visit to the 'Abimansala - III' at Pangolla on 09 August 2023 with the motive of raising moral spirits of our differently abled War Heroes under recuperation and rehabilitation.

Mrs. Janaki Liyanage President of Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU) interacted with the differently abled War Heroes and awarded them with gift parcels during the programme. Moreover, an entertainment programme was also held to entertain them by the Calypso band of the Sri Lanka Armoured Corps. Further, the President also gifted cleaning items which are required to clean the swimming pool of the War Heroes, used for hydro therapy.

In the meantime, the President with members of Army Seva Vanitha Unit took time to look at handicrafts made by War Heroes and spoke high of their creative skills. Also, the President of Army Seva Vanitha Unit visited the paper recycling project which is managed by the Army Seva Vanitha Unit and the Ayurveda hospital.

Senior members of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit, Senior Officers, Officers, and Other Ranks participated in the event.





## VIRULIYA-HARASARA SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED



Under the guidance of the Commander of the Army, and the instructions of Mrs. Janaki Liyanage President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU), in collaboration with CBL Company organised a cookery programme under the theme 'Viruliya Harasara', to enhance the knowledge of culinary and cookery skills of the Lady Officers, women soldiers and spouses of service personnel on 17 August 2023 at the Sri Lanka Light Infantry Regimental Centre auditorium.

Commencing the cookery programme, Mr. Sachi Fernando, the General Manager of the Food Cluster Section, CBL Company, introduced the importance of the workshop and commenced the cookery workshop. Also, gift parcels inclusive of CBL Food Cluster products distributed among the participants during the workshop.

Mrs. Janaki Liyanage President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU), General Manager of the Food Cluster Section, CBL Company, and members, senior members of Army Seva Vanitha Unit and Officers and Other Ranks over 200 participated in the programme.





# **'Manusath Derana - 61' with SLEME - SVB Launches Many Welfare Projects**

'Manusath Derana' of TV "Derana" launched its 61<sup>st</sup> programme with the assistance of Sri Lanka Army Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch (SLEME - SVB) at the Sri Lanka Army Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Base Workshop - Udawalawa on 29 July 2023 with several community programmes for the benefit of serving and retired Sri Lanka Army Electrical & Mechanical Engineers soldiers, civil staff and a large crowd of locals in the area.

Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU) graced the occasion as the Chief Guest together with Mrs. Nandani Samarakoon, Chairperson of Sri Lanka Army Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch and Mr. Mahesh Jayawardena, Chairman of 'Manusath Derana'.

During the event, the Sri Lanka Eye Donation Society sponsored free eye checkups and the distribution of 600 free spectacles, and Leeson's Hospital - Ragama funded 800 tests for diagnosing early stages of kidney diseases and 150 medical tests for identifying early Cholesterol risks.







At the same time, Aqua Light Company donated a water filter for the Udawalawa Central College and Coconut Cultivation Board distributed 500 hybrid coconut saplings. 'Manusath Derana' donated 05 clutches and 05 walking sticks for handicapped and elderly personnel in the area during the programme.

In addition, Octan Pvt Ltd donated 03 solar power systems for needy houses which never had electricity earlier and 04 oil sprayers for needy families living by cultivation. Meanwhile, Kyodai Lanka Pvt Ltd selected 100 young people from the area to train and get job opportunities from Japan for them. Further, 80 Army personnel donated blood to the National Blood Bank in the same location.

Afterwards, invitees moved to the Thibolketiya area in Udawalawa and warmed a newly - erected house to a deserving retired Non-commissioned Officer who served in the Sri Lanka Army Electrical & Mechanical Engineers. The beneficiary was suffering from several illnesses and is now completely bedridden. He retired due to his medical conditions. He is married and blessed with one son who is living separately. His wife is unemployed and the couple was living in a shelter made out of coconut fronds and clay walls.



Amila Tires Pvt Ltd in Slave Island and Sri Lanka Army Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch meanwhile jointly contributed to the required monetary assistance and troops of the Sri Lanka Army Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Base Workshop at Udawalawa provided the much-needed technical expertise and manpower.

Major General S P A I M B Samarakoon Hdmc Lsc, Commander, Army Logistic Command, Senior Officers, Officers, members of Sri Lanka Army Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch, Other Ranks, Principal of the Udawalawa Central College, Government Officials in the area and a local crowd more than 1500 also witnessed this mega scale welfare project.



## SRI LANKA SIGNAL CORPS SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



The Annual General Meeting of the Sri Lanka Signal Corps Seva Vanitha Branch for the year 2023 was held on 20 May 2023 at the Sri Lanka Signal Corps Regimental Headquarters Officers' Mess. The President, Sri Lanka Signal Corps Seva Vanitha Branch addressed the audience and highlighted the vision and objectives of the Signal Seva Vanitha Branch and shared her views on the future projects. In line with the same event, Rs. 100,000.00 loan facility with zero interest granted by Ministry of Defence also distributed among 14 Other Ranks.

## THE GEMUNU WATCH SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



Gemunu Watch Seva Vanitha Branch and the Regimental Centre organised a commemoration ceremony for the fallen War Heroes and a programme to pay tribute to their wives and children on 29 July 2023 following the conceptual layout of Mrs. Manori Welagedara President, Gemunu Watch Seva Vanitha Branch at the Mylapitiya War Heroes memorial. Wives and children of 31 fallen War Heroes who lived in and around Kandy district belonging to the Gemunu Watch participated in the ceremony.

## SRI LANKA ARMY SERVICE CORPS SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



A dry rations distribution was held in order to assist the poverty-stricken members, and civil staff serving at 6 Sri Lanka Service Corps on 12 August 2023. In line with the same event, school accessories were also distributed for the deserved students of those families. Mrs. Thushari Wanigasekara President, Sri Lanka Army Service Corps graced the event as the Chief Guest.



## SRI LANKA ARMY MEDICAL CORPS SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



Following the conceptual layout of Dr. Mrs. Nilmini Fernando the President, Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps Seva Vanitha Branch with the participation of Officers, Other Ranks and Civil Staff installed a finger millet (Kurakkan) porridge and herbs congee outlet at cafeteria in 1 Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps on 31 July 2023. Brigadier W A U S Wanasekara RWP USP Colonel Commandant of Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps, members of Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps Seva Vanitha Branch participated in the opening ceremony.

## SRI LANKA ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



Under the guidance of Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps Seva Vanitha Branch, lunch was offered for the "Bharathie" orphanage in Mullaitivu on 13 August 2023. In line with the same event, gift parcels were also distributed during the programme.

## SRI LANKA CORPS OF MILITARY POLICE SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



Monthly general meeting of Provost Ladies was held on 23 August 2023 at the Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police Regimental Centre Officers' Mess. During the monthly general meeting Mr. Hasintha Hewawsam conducted an educative lecture on psychological aspects and nearly 200 members of the Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police Seva Vanitha Branch participated in the programme.



## SRI LANKA ARMY GENERAL SERVICE CORPS SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



Major General D M K D B Pussella RWP RSP Colonel Commandant of the Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps, together with Mrs. Himali Pussella, the President of the Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch unit, made a visit to the Ranaviru Sevana in Ragama on 07 August 2023, with the objective of raising the mental stability and wellness of permanently injured War Heroes under recuperation and rehabilitation.

During the visit, a bhodhi pooja was held involving the blessings for the permanently injured War Heroes under recuperation and rehabilitation and gift parcels were also distributed among them. Brigadier S C Ekanayake RSP, Director Rehabilitation, Brigadier W D M Kumarasinghe RSP, Commandant, Ragama Ranaviru Sevana and several members of the Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch, Officers participated in the event.

## SRI LANKA ARMY WOMEN'S CORPS SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



A one-day workshop organised by the Regimental Centre Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps and Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps Seva Vanitha Branch was held on 23 August 2023 at the Regimental Centre, Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps, Borella with the participation of all Officers and Other Ranks. The programme was conducted under the guidance and instructions of Major General U D Wijesekera RWP RSP USP rcds psc, Colonel Commandant of Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps and Commander Security Forces Headquarters (West) and Mrs. Shyamali Wijesekera, the President of Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps Seva Vanitha Branch.


Deshabandu Dr Pabilis Silva, Director-Culinary Affairs and Promotion of Mount Lavinia Hotel conducted a fruitful lecture on the balance diet and keeping up with the healthy life including the menus required for a healthy life.



A famous cake designer Mrs. Nimako De Silva, educated the audience with practical activities including very important methods about cake design and decorations. Mr. Suminda Perera, the owner of 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance flowers, delivered a special lecture on "how to arrange a creative flower decoration for various functions" with practical sessions and theories.













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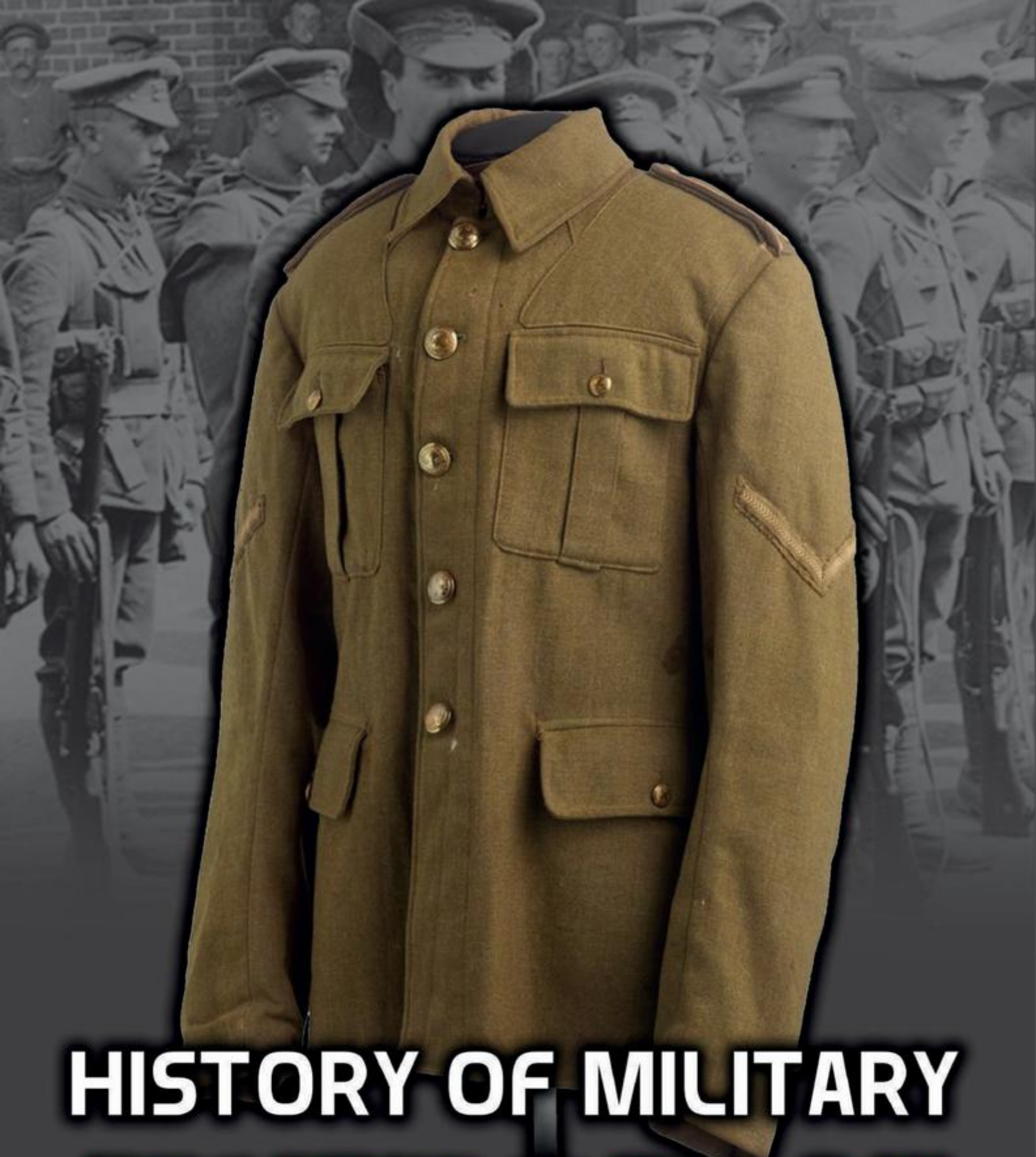


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# HISTORY OF MILITARY UNIFORMS



*The history of military uniforms is vast and diverse, spanning different cultures, time periods, and regions reflecting changes in warfare, technology, and societal norms. Early civilizations, such as the Romans and Greeks, used standardized armor and clothing to distinguish ranks and units. Soldiers' appearances were often influenced by available resources and local traditions. During the medieval period, knights and nobles displayed personal heraldry on their custom armor and shields.*

The infantry uniforms in the early modern era (16th to 18th centuries) varied widely based on the country, period, and specific military regulations. Early modern infantry uniforms evolved over time, influenced by factors such as national identity, technological advancements, and changing military tactics. The Renaissance era brought about significant changes in military uniforms, reflecting shifts in warfare, technology, and societal norms, and marked a shift from full-body armor to more practical and aesthetically pleasing clothing. Soldiers began wearing doublets, hose, and other garments that allowed for greater mobility. Infantry uniforms were often characterized by a mix of colorful garments, reflecting the individuality of soldiers and the diverse regiments.

The use of mercenary armies in Europe led to a mix of styles and influences. Soldiers from different regions and backgrounds brought diverse clothing and armor, resulting in a colorful array of uniforms. Landsknechts, mercenaries of the late 15th and 16th centuries, were known for their flamboyant and distinctive attire. Their uniforms often featured colorful slashes, puffed sleeves, and codpieces. During the Renaissance, French military uniforms began to incorporate more standardized elements. Soldiers often wore colorful outfits with distinct designs to represent their regiments or units. In the 16th and 17th centuries, British military uniforms were relatively simple and varied widely. Soldiers often wore practical clothing based on their individual means. Uniformity was not a high priority during this time. With the rise of firearms, particularly muskets and rifles in the 16th to 17th centuries led to the development of distinct uniforms for musketeers and pikemen. These uniforms incorporated practical elements to accommodate the use of firearms and melee weapons.



The chaos of the Thirty Years' War (1618-1648) witnessed the transition from colorful, decorative uniforms to more subdued and practical attire, more standardized military uniforms to distinguish its troops. These uniforms began to include specific colors, patterns, and symbols for identification. As military tactics and technology evolved, military uniforms in the 17th and 18th centuries began to incorporate standardized designs and specific colors to distinguish regiments. National colors often played a significant role in determining uniform colors. British soldiers often wore red coats with different colored facings to indicate their regiment.

The shade of red, known as "scarlet," became iconic for the British army. Blue was a common color in military uniforms, used by various nations. The French royal army used blue coats. Prussian infantry uniforms during the 18th century were characterized by a blue coat with distinctive colors for cuffs and collars, representing the specific regiment. And Swedish infantry uniforms during the early modern era included blue coats with various colors for cuffs and collars based on the regiment. Yellow was less common but still appeared in military uniforms. Swedish uniforms, for instance, could feature blue and yellow color combinations. Some military uniforms incorporated green coats or elements. The Austrian and Russian armies often wore green uniforms, but also white and brown uniforms. Brown uniforms were used by various nations for practicality and camouflage. Spanish soldiers, especially during colonial campaigns, often wore brown uniforms. Beyond overall color, uniforms often featured contrasting facings, cuffs, collars, and other details to distinguish regiments and ranks.

The 19th century saw a continuation of color-coded infantry uniforms, but designs became more practical and less ornate due to changes in military tactics and technology. Bright colors started to give way to subdued shades like various shades of blue and gray. Dress uniforms began to take shape during the 18th century with the advent of standardized military clothing. Dress uniforms are worn during ceremonies, parades, official functions, and state occasions. They serve as a visual representation of a military's discipline, unity, and respect for tradition. In the 19th century, European armies adopted more elaborate and ornate dress uniforms, often featuring rich colors, intricate decorations, and distinctive headgear. The Napoleonic era saw the evolution of elaborate dress uniforms, particularly among officer ranks.

These uniforms showcased a military officer's status and often incorporated symbols of rank, medals, and epaulets. During the Victorian era, dress uniforms became more standardized and emphasized a sense of national identity. The British military introduced distinct regimental uniforms that were intricate and richly decorated. Dress uniforms evolved in the 20th century, adapting to changing military tactics and societal norms. Some armies retained the traditional colorful and ornate designs, while others embraced more subdued and practical versions.

Grey military uniforms have been worn by various armed forces throughout history for practical and strategic reasons. Grey military uniforms began to appear in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Militaries, particularly



in Europe, recognized the need for a color that provided some degree of concealment while retaining a more formal appearance than traditional colorful uniforms. During World War I, some armies, including the German and British forces, introduced grey uniforms for specialized units, such as stormtroopers or assault troops. These uniforms often aimed to provide effective camouflage in the field. After the war, grey uniforms remained in use by various European armies. Grey uniforms continued to be worn by some European armies during World War II. The German army, for instance, utilized grey uniforms as part of their field dress.

Khaki uniforms gained prominence due to their practicality and effectiveness in concealing soldiers in various terrains. The term "khaki" is derived from the Hindi-Urdu word "khākī," which translates to "dust-colored" or "earth-colored." The use of khaki-colored clothing was first adopted by British colonial forces stationed in India in the mid-19th century. The British army in India needed a uniform that would blend well with the local landscape.

During the Boer War (1899-1902) the British military adopted khaki uniforms for their troops fighting in the challenging terrain of South Africa. This marked a shift from the bright and conspicuous uniforms that were traditionally worn. The use of khaki uniforms expanded during World War I, as various countries recognized the advantages of muted colors for concealment in the trenches and open fields. Many nations, including France, Germany, and the United States, introduced variations of khaki uniforms during the war. The



**Boer War (1899-1902)**

success of khaki uniforms during World War I led to their widespread adoption by military forces worldwide. Different countries developed their own shades of khaki, adapting the color to suit their specific environments.

The "horizon blue" uniform was a distinctive uniform worn by the French Army during World War I. It was introduced in 1915 as a response to the need for more practical and less conspicuous uniforms for trench warfare. This new uniform was designed to provide better camouflage in the field compared to the bright red and blue uniforms that were previously used. The color "horizon blue" was chosen as it blended better with the landscape and sky. The horizon blue uniform was a simplified and practical design. The uniform was characterized by its muted color and lack of excessive ornamentation, which aligned with the changing tactics

and conditions of trench warfare. After the end of World War I, the French Army continued to use variations of the horizon blue uniform. Over time, the uniform saw modifications in design and color, reflecting changes in military technology, tactics, and needs.

The widespread adoption of olive military uniforms, often referred to as "olive drab," began during World War I. The need for effective camouflage in the trenches and other battlefields led to the development of uniforms in shades of olive green. Different countries developed their own variations of olive drab uniforms for their forces.

Olive drab uniforms continued to be a staple during World War II, particularly for the U.S. Army. The United States introduced the "M1943 Uniform" in a darker shade of olive drab, which offered better concealment in various combat environments. Olive drab uniforms remained in use in the post-war period, although some countries began to experiment with different color schemes and camouflage patterns.

Military uniforms continued to evolve in the 20th century with modern materials, camouflage patterns, and specialized gear. In the modern era, military uniforms continue to adapt to technological advancements and changes in combat tactics. Camouflage patterns and practical colors designed for specific environments have become prevalent.

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Mr. Keido Kuruberg  
Estonia

## The Last Good Bye: A Widow's Grief

Beneath the solemn sky of muted gray,  
At the funeral, where sorrow holds its sway,  
Stands the widow, in her dark attire,  
A silent symphony of grief, an unspoken choir.

She clutches a folded flag, crisp and cold,  
A tribute to the brave, a story to be told,  
In her eyes, the pain, deep and wide,  
The cost of love, where emotions collide.

As the trumpets weep a mournful sound,  
Her heart echoes in grief, profound,  
She gazes upon the casket, draped in white,  
Her love, her hero, taken from her sight.

In every step she takes, a heavy weight,  
Yet she carries herself, resolute, straight,  
The widow's strength, though her tears may flow,  
In her love's honour, she stands, a glow.

Amidst the whispered prayers and goodbye,  
She finds solace in the tears that she'll cry,  
Fallen for the world but her guiding star,  
He lives in her breath, near and far.

In this final farewell, under the somber sky,  
The widow's grief, no need to justify,  
For her love, her loss, her soldier's embrace,  
Forever etched in time, their eternal grace.



Capt Lakmali Kudaligama

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# Life, Love, Relationships, Privacy, Virtuality, Media and Us

*"Life is about balance be kind, but don't let people abuse you. Trust, but don't get deceived. Be content, but never stop improving yourself." – Buddha*

Life consists of a series of challenges interrelated to our thoughts, feelings, and behaviours. Nature made us with the function of giving birth to the next generation for the continuity of the world. Those consist of biological and mental inborn functions like emotional love and intimacy and biological sexual intercourse among men and women.

Even though love, romance, and sex are inherited from human beings, relationships decide what is good and bad. Today, we're not going to talk about those relationships. It's all about life, love, intimacy, romance, media, and the internet.

With the development of technology, the way of expressing feelings is also technologised, sometimes as email, SMS, WhatsApp, Twitter, Facebook, Messenger, Hangouts, and much more. These virtual means of expressing feelings have pros and cons.

Meanwhile, some people in relationships are intentionally recording those moments (naked partner, sexual intercourse, dressing and undressing, etc.).

Nowadays, many male and female photographs and videos shared in personal relationships go viral on social media and other platforms. Those viral media impact those individuals, families, kids, professions, etc. Hence, those unpleasant examples may lead to the end of someone's life, their family, or such a worst-case scenario.

## **Why do People tend to have virtual romantic relationships?**

- Most of the time, it happens because of distance (for example, both are located in different demographic areas overseas).
- Easy accessibility (easy to connect through viral means at any convenient time)



- Secrecy (between partners)
- To express hidden desires (unfulfilled expectations)

And many more reasons are behind those.

### **Why do People tend to take photographs and videos during virtual and physical romantic relationships?**

- To revisit their moments
- To entertain again and again.
- To keep a partner attached
- For future reference
- To show someone else
- To have their pleasure

These are some of the reasons.

### **How are those films, screen recordings, and photographs badly affected?**

- Leaking recorded romantic conversations or acts to social media
- Third-party hacking or stealing data
- Partners' disclosure after the end of a relationship
- Attempts to blackmail the partner by third party
- Unethical acts like uploading, selling, blackmailing, etc of mobile phone or computer repairs.
- After such an incident, mental stress leads to severe disorders or suicide.

### **What is the best way to avoid such occurrences?**

#### **Do not record or let your partner do so**

Romance and sexual sense come with mutual trust, respect, and understanding. While having romance or doing virtual activities, try to avoid videography or photo-taking. Since it really does not impact the pleasure that you are seeking. If those photo and video sessions go on,

then those will have some impact on future unrecognised troubles.

#### **Be careful in relationships that go over limits**

Obviously, we need sex for biological and mental satisfaction. But anyone is connected with romance. First, we have to identify the partners, and then, with a mutual understanding, the next steps can be taken. Anytime you can obligate yourself when unnecessary things go on without your consent. Love doesn't mean that you need to do all the things your partner asked you to do.

#### **Be aware of issues that can arise**

Always be mindful and stay with reality. Have the benefits of others' experiences in your life. Those will help control emotions with better outfits.

#### **Quit unnecessary and risky relationships**

Stay away from abusive and risky relationships. Especially if you feel he or she abused you, or attempt to have unnecessary benefits with your activities by forcing you to have filming of photos quit as soon as possible without stepping further.

#### **Go for Legal assistance and the law**

Having sex or romance is not a fault. But sometimes previous or secret affairs (ex-affairs) create pathways to a series of troubles. especially blackmail, sexual ransoms, fear, and many more. Even though anyone facing such a situation is protected by law, legal provisions are there for anyone who is victimized. Finally, this article attempted to open eyes to such scenarios occurring in society. Especially any section of the population, including teens, young people, middle-aged people, and old people, is vulnerable to these sorts of situations. It needs your awareness and education among families, kids, friends, and partners for a better tomorrow.



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# Charity Palmcard

## 1. FINGERLINGS RELEASE



Intending to generate income for low-income group families and fisher folk in Puthukkudiruppu area, the 68 Infantry Division on 23 August 2023 released a shoal of some 2000 freshwater fish fingerlings to the Maruthamadu tank in Puthukkudiyiruppu.

## 2. SCHOOL ACCESSORIES DISTRIBUTION



562 Infantry Brigade provided school books and stationery items to 150 needy students at Etambagaskada Vidyalaya, Agrabodhi Vidyalaya, Mahakachchikudi Vidyalaya, Bogaswewa Vidyalaya and Neduklam Primary School in Vavuniya on 23 August 2023.

## 3. SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE RENOVATION



Troops of the 4 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment renovated the Government's Tamil Mixed School in Chunnale (South) on 21 August 2023.

## 4. BLOOD DONATION



513 Infantry Brigade on account of the 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Brigade voluntarily donated their blood for the benefit of patients at Tellippalai Base Hospital in Jaffna on 19 August 2023.

## 5. AIRBEDS TO KURUNEGALA TEACHING HOSPITAL



143 Infantry Brigade and the 1 Sri Lanka National Guard provided 10 air beds to the Kurunegala Teaching Hospital with the collective sponsorship, extended by a group of philanthropists and donors on 21 August 2023.

## 6. MAJOR BUSHFIRE CONTROLLED



Commando Regiment Training School in Kudaoya promptly doused a major forest fire that broke out in the Kotigambokka, Thiththamulakanda forest reserves in Wellawaya on 21 August 2023.

## 7. BEACH CLEANUP



Investigation Unit of the Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police on 18 August 2023 carried out a beach cleaning programme in Wellawatte beach patch with the participation of more than 100 troops.

## 8. MAJOR FIRE EXTINGUISHED



On 17 August troops of Security Forces (West) extinguished sudden fire caught in a Water Care Technology Chemical factory in the Homagama Industrial Estate.



### 9. PRESCHOOL BUILDING RENOVATED



Troops of 233 Infantry Brigade renovated the 'Saraswathi' preschool building at Pudur, Kathiraveli on 13 August 2023.

### 10. FRUIT SAPPLINGS DISTRIBUTION



18 Battalion Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment distributed hundreds of mango, orange, pomegranate and rose apple saplings among low-income group families, resident in Kalmunai on 12 August 2023.

### 11. CHURCH COMPOUND CLEANED BEFORE ANNUAL FEAST



Troops in the Centre for Army Vocational Training (CAVT) at Kalaoya cleaned up the Nirmala Devamatha Church premises in Kalaoya on 07 August 2023 ahead of its annual feast.

### 12. TREATMENT FOR ORPHANAGE



233 Infantry Brigade organised an entertainment programme and a special lunch treat, for the children at Kadiraveli Thilakawathiyar Children's Home at Sallativu beach on 01 August 2023.







# SPORT

*FROM THE BATTLEGROUND TO THE PLAYGROUND*



# INTERNATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

## ARMY WOMAN RUGBY PLAYER QUALIFIES FOR TRAINING IN AUSTRALIA



The Sri Lanka Army women's rugby team emerged unbeaten champions in the Rugby 7s tournament organised by the Melbourne Rebels and Rugby Victoria Club of Australia on 29 August 2023 at CR & FC grounds in Colombo. Four leading Rugby teams of Sri Lanka, including the Sri Lanka Army, Sri Lanka Navy, Sri Lanka Air Force and CR & FC competed in the tournament. The Captain of the Sri Lanka Army Rugby team Lance Corporal D C T Liyanage, the leading try scorer of the tournament qualified to receive a scholarship to proceed for training in Australia for a period of six months. The intent of the tournament was to select the best two ruggers from Sri Lanka for award of scholarships for training and facilitate both of them to play for the Melbourne Rebels Club in Australia for a period of six months.

## ARMY MEN'S HANDBALL TEAM DEFEATS SEYCHELLES TEAM IN A FRIENDLY ENCOUNTER



Friendly handball tournament was held between Seychelles National handball team and Sri Lanka Army handball team on 02 August 2023 at the Indoor Stadium of the Army Physical Training School in Panagoda. During the tournament, Army Men's team after an exciting encounter, won the game with 32 - 24 scores defeating the Seychelles National handball Men's team. At the same time, Seychelles Women's team won over Army Women's team scoring 22 - 19 after a tough match.

# NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

## NATIONAL NOVICES MEN'S JUDO CHAMPIONSHIP

The Sri Lanka Army Men's Judo team clinched the male Championship in the National Novices Judo Championship, organised by the Sri Lanka Judo Association with the sponsorship of Olympic Judo Committee from 27 to 29 August 2023 at the National Sports Complex, Polonnaruwa.

308 players representing 35 Judo associations vied in the tournament. During the championship, Army Men's team bagged 06 Gold, 06 Silver and 05 Bronze medals with 53 points and secured the Men's championship pushing the rival, Wickramabahu Sports Club to be the runner-up having achieved 02 Gold, 02 Silver and 01 Bronze medal with 17 points. At the same time, the Women's team of Sri Lanka Air Force crowned champions in the women's category obtaining 05 Gold, 02 Silver and 03 Bronze medals with 34 points and the Rajarata Sports Club secured the runner-up slot in the women's category with 02 Silver medals in 06 points.





## NATIONAL HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 2023



The Sri Lanka Army Handball (Men's) team, beating Sri Lanka Navy Handball team carried away the championship trophy in the Sri Lanka National Handball Championship - 2023, held at Puttalam Public ground from 11 to 14 August 2023. 21 island-wide handball (Male) players under four categories vied in the tournament and the final tussle got underway between Army and Navy teams where the scoreboard stood at 36 - 31 respectively as the match drew to a close. Similarly, Sri Lanka Army players (Women) won the runners-up trophy after beating their rivals in the Sri Lanka Air Force. The score stood at 21 - 25 respectively. Corporal Wimalarathna D G R of Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps, Lance Corporal Karunarathna R D A R of Sri Lanka Light Infantry Regiment and Private Pathmakumara K D of Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps were awarded trophies as Best Player of the tournament, Best Goalkeeper and Best players of the final match in succession.

## BEST BODYBUILDER TROPHY IN 47<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL GAMES



The bodybuilding event of the 47th National Games, organised by the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs took place on 05 August 2023 at the Sports Ministry's Duncan White auditorium with the participation of more than 09 teams representing different provinces of the country. During the tournament, Army Bodybuilders bagged 02 Gold and 02 Bronze medals. Lance Corporal Maginaarachchi G K of Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps clinched the Best Bodybuilder trophy. 07 Army sportsmen participated in the tournament.

## 'DEFENCE SERVICES BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT - 2023'



The final matches of the Defence Services Basketball Tournament - 2023 was held on 25 August 2023 at the Army Indoor Stadium, Panagoda. Sri Lanka Army team won the championship while the Sri Lanka Navy secured the runner-up slot in the Men's category. The tournament was organised by the Sri Lanka Army Basketball Committee.

## IRON RIDERS' CYCLE RACE



The Sri Lanka Army cyclists won the 03rd, 04th, 05th, 06th, 15th and 17th slots in the Divulapitiya, Maradagahamula 'Iron Riders' Sports Club-organised racing bicycle competition (men's category) while Army women cyclists secured the 08th and 10th slots in the women's race. The Sri Lanka Cycling Federation and Gampaha District Cycling Association jointly launched the project on 20 August in the heart of Divulapitiya town.

As directed by the Commander of the Army, Chairman of the Sri Lanka Army Cycling team enabled Regimental cyclists to participate in the event. Other than Army Teams, cyclists teams of the Navy, Air Force, Police, Port Authority, and Dehiwala-Mount Lavinia Municipality participated in the cycling race. In all, around- 100 cyclists competed in the event. Major General J A R S K Jayasekara USP psc, Chairman of the Army Cycling Federation participated as a special guest during the inaugural occasion of this competition giving encouragement to the Army cyclists.



# REGIMENTAL ACHIEVEMENTS

## GR SQUASH PLAYERS BECOME CHAMPIONS IN ARMY INTER REGIMENT SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP



The Army Inter Regiment Squash Championship concluded on 09 August 2023 at the Home of Sappers, Mattegoda Squash Court. During the course of ten intense days, players from 13 different regiments showcased their unparalleled skills and determination while vying for supremacy in 11 competitive events. Major General A H L G Amarapala RWP RSP ndc psc, Chief Field Engineer of the Sri Lanka Army and Chairman of the Sri Lanka Army Squash Committee as the Chief Guest witnessed the finals and joined the awarding ceremony.

After a series of closely-contested encounters, the Gajaba Regiment emerged Champions in the Men's open team championship pushing the Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers for the runners-up trophy. Sri Lanka Engineers secured the third place.

# UNIT ACHIEVEMENTS

## 9 SLSC TEAM WINS INTER UNIT CRICKET TOURNAMENT

The Inter Unit Cricket Tournament of the Sri Lanka Signal Corps (SLSC)-2023 organised by the 4 Sri Lanka Signal Corps was held at 4 Sri Lanka Signal Corps Cricket Ground in Anuradhapura under the guidance of the Chief Signal Officer of Sri Lanka Army and the Colonel Commandant of Sri Lanka Signal Corps.

In the finale tussle, the 9 Sri Lanka Signal Corps cricket team became the champions scoring 33 runs after a thrilling encounter against the 1 Sri Lanka Signal Corps. Corporal De Zoysa M R N of 9 SLSC



became the man of the tournament while Lance Corporal Premalal L M P Y of 9 SLSC was adjudged the best batsman and man of the match in the finals. Corporal Udaya Kumara S P S of 9 SLSC became the best bowler in the tournament. The tournament was organised with the objective of identifying skills and potential cricket players of the Corps of Signals and grooming them for the forthcoming regimental level tournaments in order to gain competitive exposure.





Why did the scarecrow win an award?

Because he was outstanding in his field!



Why don't scientists trust atoms?

Because they make up everything!



## SUDOKU PUZZLE

### QUESTION

#### How to Play

Fill in the blank squares, using 1 to 9 without repeating any numbers within the row, column or square.

	9					2	4	1
3			8					
	6	1		4	8			
			6					
					8	6	2	4
	2	9		3				6
8		3		5		1		
						5		9

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# Workshop for Compering Training

The Directorate of Personnel Administration with the aim of enhancing compering skills of the soldiers organised a 'Compering Workshop' for 30 selected troops, drawn from various regiments at the Army Headquarters.

The Compering Workshop was held from 7 August 2023 to on 23 August 2023. Mrs. Thushari Welagedara, renowned instructor at Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation Training Center, Ms. Wasana Lakmali, compere at Ministry of Defence and Sirasa TV, Brigadier K A U Kodithuwakku RSP USP psc IG, Director of the Directorate of Personnel Administration and Officers of the Chief Signal Office conducted the lectures.

After the end of the course on 21 August, the certificates were awarded to the attendees of the 'Compering Workshop'. Major General S R B Aluvihare RWP RSP ndu psc, Adjutant General joined to distribute the certificates.





## Decorating the International sports arena with gold



The Army Taekwondo player, Major R B N Rathnayaka of the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps participating in London's 'World Taekwondo Championship -2023' of the World Union of Martial Arts Federation won three Gold Medals in Single, Double and Team events under above 40 year categories.

The Championship tournament was held at A-2 Arena Crawley London from 21 -23 July 2023 August 2023 with the participation of players from 17 countries vied for supremacy.

Major R B N Rathnayaka is one of the most-seasoned international level Taekwondo players in the country who has earned a wealth of experience for having competed with players of more than 30 countries during his impressive journey of sports and Taekwondo. He is the incumbent President of the World Military Taekwondo Committee of the International Military Sports Council (CISM) from the year 2016 to-date.

He also joins military history as the first-ever Sri Lankan Military Officer to have been selected for such a prestigious appointment in the CISM.



**WUMF**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> WORLD**  
**CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**ENGLAND 2023**