



# BELLATOR

R A N A V I R U W A



**14TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE NATIONAL WAR  
HEROES' DAY**







# බුද්ධරශ්මි 2023 NATIONAL VESAK FESTIVAL

## PRESIDENT SWITCHES ON 'BUDDHA RASHMI VESAK ZONE' AT GANGARAMA

Honourable Ranil Wickremesinghe, the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces declared open the 'Buddha Rashmi Vesak Zone' which is the National Vesak celebration, organised by the Gangarama on 5 May 2023 together with a retinue, inclusive of Honourable Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena Speaker of the Parliament and Ministers, including Honourable Minister Bandula Gunawardene, Mr Sagala Ratnayake, Chief of Staff of the President and National Security Advisor to the President, Secretary to Ministry of Defence, Chief of Defence Staff, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army, Inspector General of Police and Senior tri- service Officers. Sri Lanka Army massively contributed to colour the 'Buddha Rashmi Vesak Zone' adding a charming blessings for the event with many decorations including flags, lanterns and Illumination, flower processions and pandols. 'Apaaya' (hell), designed by Army personnel of the Directorate of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers won every visitor's attention.





After witnessing the 'Buddha Rashmi Vesak Zone' the President spent a few minutes sharing thoughts with the members of the regiments and institutions of the Sri Lanka Army who presented various creative decorations for the Vesak Zone appreciating their creative skills. This year's Gangarama 'Buddha Rashmi National Vesak Zone', attracted thousands of devotees as the event held after many years.







# 14<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National War Heroes' Day



The 14th anniversary of the National War Heroes' Day alias the 'Victory Day' that pays floral tributes to the bravery of 28,619 fallen War Heroes who liberated the country from brutal terrorism was commemorated on 19 May 2023 in a solemn, dignified ceremony held at the Battaramulla National War Heroes' Monument with the attendance of Honourable Ranil Wickremesinghe the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces.

23,962 Army personnel, 1,160 Navy and 443 Air Force personnel, 2,598 Police and 456 Civil Security Department personnel who had made the supreme sacrifice when liberating the motherland from the ruthless terrorism held before May 2009 were respectfully remembered for their exceptional valour, gallantry, selfless dedication and invaluable sacrifices offering floral tributes.





A galaxy of dignitaries and war veterans, inclusive of clergy, beloved spouses, relatives of fallen War Heroes, Honourable Prime Minister, Dinesh Gunawardene, Honourable Speaker, Mahinda Yapa Abeywardene, Honourable Opposition Leader, Sajith Premadasa, Ministers, Members of Parliament, State Ministers and, Secretary to the President, Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor to the President on National Security, Secretary to Ministry of Defence, former Tri-Service sCommanders, Chief of Defence Staff, Commander of the Army, Commander of the Navy, Commander of the Air Force, Inspector General of Police, Director General of Civil Security Department, Chairman, Ranaviru Seva Authority, tri-services veterans and Senior Officers joined together to salute the memory of those brave sons and daughters of the Nation.







## Battaramulla illuminated with **Army** **'Vesak Zone'**

Adding customary glamour and colour to the commemoration of the Vesak Week, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army, together with Mrs. Janaki Liyanage the President, Sri Lanka Army Seva Vanitha Unit switched on illuminations and inaugurated the Army Headquarters' Vesak Zone on 5 May 2023 amid the blessings of many devotees.







The Army Headquarters Vesak Zone which was extended up to the office of the Central Environmental Authority was comprised of 14 rotating lanterns presented by various directorates and branches of the Army Headquarters and Regiments including more than 700 octagonal Vesak lanterns. In addition, the Army Seva Vanitha Unit organised an ice cream 'Dansala' (alms stall) for distribution among Vesak sight-seers. Vesak Bhakthi Gee (Devotional Song) display spread the message of peace and good virtues among all viewers. Senior Officers including Chief of Staff, Officers, Other Ranks and a large crowd of civilians witnessed the inauguration and visited the Army Headquarters Vesak zone.





## ***Army Commander takes blessings of Ruwanweli Maha Seya***



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 'Ruwanweli Maha Seya' and met Chief Incumbent Most Venerable Eethalawetunuwewe Gnanathilaka Thero on 9 May 2023.

After, taking the blessings both of them joined a donation of school accessories among 750 needy students of Anuradhapura at the invitation of Chief Incumbent of 'Ruwanweli Maha Seya'. Venerable monks at Ruwanweli Maha Seya and 'Atamasthanadhipathi' Venerable Pallegama Hemarathana Thero, together with sponsors of the gesture, 'EWIS' Group of Companies launched the charity project.

Her Excellency Ho Thi Thanh Truc Ambassador of Vietnam in Sri Lanka, Major General C D Ranasinghe RWP RSP Commander, Security Force Headquarters (Wanni), Major General M E P Weerasingha USP ato Commander, Forward Maintenance Area - North Central, Major General W P A D W Nanayakkara RSP VSV USP ndu General Officer Commanding of 21 Infantry Division, Mr. Sanjeeva Wickramanayake Chairman of the EWIS Group, and a large crowd of devotees around the area witnessed the event.





## Commander of the Army appreciates the contributors to Gangarama Vesak Zone



Award of cash incentives and prizes for the 'creative Vesak lanterns and decorations at the Gangarama 'Buddha Rashmi Vesak Zone' took place on 7 May 2023 amid a gathering of distinguished invitees, including Venerable monks, Honourable Minister Bandula Gunawardana, Mr. Saman Ekanayake, President's Secretary, 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 high-ranking state officials, students and invitees.

The 'Buddha Rashmi Vesak Zone' consisted of tri-services, Civil Security Department and Police - crafted decorations, devotional song floats and 'Dansel' (alms stalls). During the award ceremony, Army personnel were able to win the second, third and sixth places in the competitions for Vesak lanterns and decorations. The 'Apaaya' (hall) designed by the Directorate of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (EME) became a popular attraction among Vesak sightseers.

## ARMY SINGERS COLOUR 'VESAK' ZONE AT GALLE FACE



Sri Lanka Army personnel adding their aesthetic skills to the 'Vesak' commemoration presented a spectacle of 'Bakthi Gee' (devotional songs) at Galle Face green esplanade on 6 May 2023. Mr. E M S B Ekanayake Honourable President's Secretary, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army, Mrs. Janaki Liyanage President of Army Seva Vanitha Unit, and a host of other state officials and invitees attended the event.







## ***Religious observances at 'Sanda Hiru Seya'***

A series of events took place at the 'Sanda Hiru Seya' pagoda premises in Anuradhapura on 20 and 21 May 2023 in line with the 14th anniversary of the National War Heroes' Day, marked at Battaramulla before the War Heroes' monument. An overnight 'Pirith' chanting ceremony, offering 'Buddha' Pooja and Gilanpasa, colourful 'Perahera' procession and offering 'Heel Daana' (breakfast) to 100 monks of all Eight Places of Veneration (atmasthanas) were held during the event.

Honourable Premitha Bandara Tennakoon, State Minister of Defence, General G D H K Gunaratne (Rtd) WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc MPhil Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, Chief of Defence Staff, Commander of the Army, Commander of the Navy, Commander of the Air Force, Senior tri-services Officers and Police Officers, Spouses of the Tri-Services Commanders, and Other Ranks participated in the event.





## ***Commander of the Army opens a 'Dansela' at Kelaniya***

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army, together with Mrs. Janaki Liyanage President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit, took part in the offerings to the ancient Kelaniya Raja Maha Viharaya on the thrice blessed Vesak Day (5 May 2023) and declared open the mammoth rice and curry 'Dansela' (alms stall) for the devotees. The Army Commander and President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit graced the occasion as the Chief Guests at the invitation of Venerable (Prof) Kollupitiye Mahinda Sangharakkitha Nayaka Thero, Chief Incumbent at Kelaniya Raja Maha Vihara.







**COMMANDER OF THE ARMY DECLARES OPEN WARRANT OFFICERS'  
AND SERGEANTS' MESS AT SLAC REGIMENTAL CENTRE**





Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army, at the invitation of Major General D B S N Bothota RWP RSP VSV USP psc Commander, Security Force Headquarters (Jaffna) and Colonel Commandant of Sri Lanka Armoured Corps graced the opening ceremony of the newly constructed Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess at the Regimental Centre of the Sri Lanka Armoured Corps in Modara, Colombo 15 attending as the Chief Guest on 25 May 2023.



Troops of the 1 Corps Engineer Services (CES) Regiment, together with troops of Sri Lanka Armoured Corps provided much required manpower, engineering and technical skills for the construction comprised of a spacious dining hall, TV room, kitchen, visitors' room and residential facilities.

Before his departure, the Commander of the Army handed over a newly-fabricated Mine Resistance Ambush Protected Vehicle (MRAP) to Colonel Commandant of the Sri Lanka Armoured Corps. Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (SLEME) Regiment designed and manufactured the MRAP.







## US ARMY PACIFIC COMMAND DEPUTY COMMANDER FOR AUSTRALIA MEETS ARMY COMMANDER

Major General Chris Smith, the Australian Deputy Commanding General to the US Army Pacific Command (USARPAC) for Australia, together with Lieutenant Colonel Anthony C. Nelson, Defence Attaché of the US Embassy in Colombo, Major Andrew Teruya, US Army Pacific - South Asia Country Director and Captain Brittney Davis paid a courtesy call on Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army at the Army Headquarters on 2 May 2023.

During the cordial interaction, Army Commander and the delegation exchanged views on current security concerns in the Asian Pacific region, expansion of bilateral training opportunities and benefits and other matters of general concern for both organisations.

## *India's Chief of the Air Staff meets Army Commander*

The Chief of the Air Staff of Indian Air Force, Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari called on Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army on 3 May 2023 at the Army Headquarters.

The Air Staff of Indian Air Force, Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari was warmly welcomed to the premises amidst the formal military honours including a Guard of Honour in conformity with military traditions by Major General M G W W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc Adjutant General.

During his cordial meeting both parties exchanged views on bilateral matters of concern to both the Sri Lanka Army and the Indian Air Force. Discussions also focused on region-related issues. Before the departure Chief of the Air Staff sat for a group photograph with all Senior Officers.







## Doctrinal publications presented to Army Commander

Maiden copies of the 'Special Operations Forces' Doctrine', 'Battle Group Tactics', 'Training Tactics', 'Infantry Platoon Basic Tactics', 'Urban Operations' and 'Intelligence' compiled by the Directorate of Research Concept and Doctrine (Dte of RCD) of the Sri Lanka Army were presented to the Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army on 25 May 2023 during a brief ceremony at the Army Headquarters.

Major General G W A Senevirathne USP psc Director General Research Concept and Doctrine, warmly welcomed the Chief Guest, Commander of the Sri Lanka Army and other invitees to the event and then after Major General S U M N Manage WWV RWP RSP psc Director General Staff presented the first copies of the publications to the Chief Guest. E-copies of the publications were also simultaneously released by the Chief Guest. Separate copies of the publications that included guidelines,

provisions and methods of application that should be pursued in the execution of military responsibilities and specific roles were also distributed among Staff Officers during the event.

Later, Commander of the Army, undertook a visit to the Research Analysis Projection and Development (RAP & D) Wing of Directorate of Research Concept and Doctrine together with Brigadier H C L Galappaththi RSP USP Head, Research Analysis Projection and Development and inspected several new innovations designed by the wing. An unmanned Ariel Vehicle (UAV), a 3D Mapping Project, an Air Filter Cleaning Machine, a Low-cost Multi Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL) Charging Regulator, a Vehicle Speed Limit Smart Indicator and a CDI Ignition Coil Spark Plug Testing Machine were also included in the innovations.



## Newly promoted Major Generals meet Commander of the Army



7 Major Generals of the Army who were promoted, coincident with the 'Victory Day' on 19 May 2023 called on Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu the Commander of the Army, at Commander's office, and received their new insignia and symbols of authority amidst greetings of the Army Commander.

Major General P A C Fernando USP Director General, Army Health Services, Major General D K S K Dolage USP psc Director General, Directorate of Training, Major General S A N D Edirisinghe RWP RSP Hdmc psc Director General, Directorate of Operations, Major General C S Munasinghe WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc IG, Senior Directing Staff (Army), National Defence College, Major General Y A B M Yahampath RWP RSP ndu psc Commandant, Army War College, Major General M S Devapriya USP ndc Director (Operations and Systems), Office of the Chief of Defence Staff and Major General K M S Kumara Director General Engineer Services accordingly received their new insignia from the Army Commander and were awarded the General's swords to the new two-star Generals to signify their new authority.

## Army Commander visits 'Abhimansala-II' Wellness Resort



To inquire the wellbeing of the War Heroes who sacrificed their legs and limbs for the motherland before May 2009, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army, together with Mrs. Janaki Liyanage President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit paid a visit to the 'Abhimansala – II' wellness resort at Kamburupitiya on 27 May 2023.

During the interactions, Commander of the Army and President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit interacted with the resident War Heroes and distributing gift packs, made available by the Army Seva Vanitha Unit. A stock of liquid chlorine was also donated for the Abhimansala – II'. This was the first visit of an Army Commander to this rehabilitation centre after its founding it in 2012.



## ARMY COMMANDER EMPOWERS EDUCATION OF DESERVING STUDENTS

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu the Commander of the Army, donated laptops to an exceptional student of a Non-Commissioned Officer on 23 May 2023. The daughter of a medically-boarded out Lance Corporal, who excelled in her academics, earned a place at a prestigious university amidst many challenging circumstances. Her father, Lance Corporal Kirigama K C D a war veteran of the Sri Lanka Army belonging to the Gajaba Regiment, selflessly served the motherland during the war before 2009.



Mr. K A N Sarath Kumara, who is serving as a civil employee of the Commander's Secretariat, has been recognised for his dedicated commitments towards his responsibilities. His son, demonstrating his immense potential, passed the Grade 5 Scholarship Examination with flying colors in 2019 and was fortunate to be admitted to Ananda College, Colombo for his secondary education. The heart-warming gesture highlighted the unwavering commitment of the Sri Lanka Army towards education and supporting its own members and their families.

## 'Vishmitha Hela Osuwa', presented to Commander of the Army



The maiden copy of the work, 'Vishmitha Hela Osuwa' (Amazing Sinhala Herbal Medicine), authored by Corporal Bandara M T I S of the 3 Special Forces Regiment presented to Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army. He has gathered an in-depth knowledge on herbs while attached to 'Survival Herbal Garden' at the Special Forces Training School, Maduru Oya.

The booklet includes the descriptions of 100 species of herbs and their scientific and generic information, 'Ayurvedic' value for treatments and the application of those plants for medications. The author served as an instructor of 'Survival Escape Evasion and Combat Tracking Course' at Special Forces Regiment during 2018-2021. The work provides guidelines for identification of those herbs and the importance of their re-planting as some of the species are endangered.



## Chief of Staff graces the BOM Meeting at SLMA



The Board of Management (BOM) meeting at the Sri Lanka Military Academy (SLMA) was held on 9 May 2023 under the patronage of Major General C D Weerasuriya RWP RSP ndu Chief of Staff of the Army. During the Board of Management meeting general administrative and logistic matters, related to training and improvements of the SLMA were discussed by the members and explored possibilities of finding solutions to the most concerned issues on long and short term basis.



Major General S U M N Manage WWV RWP RSP psc Director General General Staff, Major General G W A Senaviratne USP psc Director, Research Concept and Doctrine, Major General Y A B M Yahampath RWP RSP ndu psc Commandant, Sri Lanka Military Academy and Lieutenant Colonel S M Munasinghe USP Budget & Finance (Officiating) participated in the BOM discussion.

## 'Major General Jaliya Nammuni Pavilion' vested in for the troops

'Major General Jaliya Nammuni' Cricket Pavilion, a much-admired addition to the Archers' Cricket Ground which has been named in honour of the founding Father of the Viayabahu Infantry Regiment (VIR) was ceremonially declared open on 20 May 2023 by the 'Father of the Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment' himself, Major General Jaliya Nammuni (Retd) during a glittering ceremony, held at the Viayabahu Infantry Regiment's Regimental Centre premises in Boyagane, Kurunegala.

Major General S U M N Manage WWV RWP RSP psc Colonel of the Regiment of the Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment, Director General General Staff of the Army and the Commander, 1 Corps respectfully welcomed the founding father of Viayabahu Infantry Regiment on arrival at the premises, together with a group of senior officers.

The two-storied pavilion that matches all modern standards has the ability to accommodate approximately 400 personnel and is equipped with a fully-fledged gymnasium, separate dressing rooms and a VIP lounge providing a spectacular view of the entire Viayabahu Infantry Regiment Cricket Ground. The founding father, Major General Jaliya Nammuni (Rtd) afterwards witnessed the latest development projects that have been made at the Regimental Centre and its surroundings.



Senior Officers including Major General D M K D B Pussella RWP RSP, Commander, and Security Force Headquarters (West) Council Members, Senior Officers and Regimental staff were present during the proceedings.



## TROOPS OF SFHQ (JAFFNA) CLEAN GURUNAGAR BEACH

To coincide with the Earth Day (22 April), troops of the 51 Infantry Division of the Security Force Headquarters (Jaffna) launched a beach cleaning project along the coastal belt of Gurunagar in Jaffna on 24 April 2023 together with the civilians in the area. District Secretariat, Jaffna and Marine Environment Protection Authority coordinated the beach clean-up project.

The beach patch, littered with discarded wrappers, polythene, plastic bottles, empty cans and other pollutants was cleaned under the project. Mr. A Sivabalasundran District Secretary for Jaffna, Major General D B S N Bothota RWP RSP VSV USP psc Commander, Security Force Headquarters (Jaffna), Major General S W B Welagedara RSP VSV USP ndc General Officer Commanding, 51 Infantry Division, Senior Officers, Officers, Other Ranks, Navy and Air Force personnel, state officials and employees and students also took part in the programme.



## Pinnacle placement of reconstructed pagoda



The sacred placement of the pinnacle atop of the reconstructed pagoda (stupa) at the historic Tissa Viharaya in Kankesanthurai was held on 27 April 2023 during a brief ceremony with the participation of Venerable Ginthota Nandarama Thero, Chief Incumbent at Tissa Viharaya and Major General D B S N Bothota RWP RSP VSV USP psc Commander, Security Forces (Jaffna) at the auspicious minute amidst reverberating 'Pirith' chanting of the Maha Sangha. The construction of this stupa was completed with the unstinting efforts of the troops of the Security Force Headquarters (Jaffna).





## ***Adjutant General visits Security Force Headquarters (Wanni)***



Major General M G W W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndc psc Adjutant General of the Army and his staff made a visit to the Security Force Headquarters (Wanni) on 22 May 2023 in order to receive updates on the administrative functions of all under command formations of the Security Force Headquarters (Wanni).

Afterwards, Major General M G W W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndc psc together with Staff Officers and field Commanders of all Divisions, Brigades and Battalions discussed matters pertaining to administrative matters in their respective establishments and gave away necessary directions for smooth conduct of operational matters.



## **Reserve Platoon Course No. 5 concludes at Pampaimadu**



The Reserve Platoon Course No. 5, conducted under the supervision of Commander, Security Force Headquarters (Wanni) at the Battalion Training School (BTS) at Pampaimadu successfully concluded on 27 April 2023 at the Battalion Training School premises. Brigadier S G G Gamage RWP USP Brigadier General Staff Security Force Headquarters (Wanni) graced the event as the Chief Guest.

The curriculum of the course included lectures and practical sessions on conduct of the GPS, unarmed combat (UC), VIP/VVIP protection, the marksmanship package (handling of weapons with live firing), search and rescue operations, rules of engagement (ROE), special operation procedures, and internal security (IS) duties. 10 platoons consisted of 10 Officers and 250 Other Ranks selected from 21, 54, 56, 62, and 65 Infantry Divisions under the Security Force Headquarters (Wanni) included in the course.





## 37TH KANTHOOR IN KATHTHANKUDY

Major General S R K Hettiarachchi RWP RSP VSV USP ndu psc Commander, Security Forces (East) was invited to the 37th Annual Grand Kanthoor Celebration - 2023 at Khwajajee Majlis Hall in Kaththankudy on 17 May 2023.

Major General S A Kulatunge RWP RSP USP psc the General Officer Commanding of the 23 Infantry Division, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Kaththankudy, Colonel H H P C Halapage Chief Coordinator for Civil Affairs, Security Force Headquarters (East), Senior Officers and Officers also participated in the ceremony. Gareeb Nawas Foundation conducted this ceremony for the last 36 years.

## Residential facilities for Officers



Newly-constructed Officers' Accommodation Building in the Officers Mess at the Security Force Headquarters (East) was vested in on 18 May 2023 during a simple ceremony graced by Major General S R K Hettiarachchi RWP RSP VSV USP ndu psc Commander Security Forces (East) fulfilling a long-standing requirement. The residential quarters of the officers is comprised with 8 rooms, and equipped with all facilities. The task was undertaken by 3 Corps of Engineer Services (CES) troops and successfully completed within a few months. Staff Officers, Officers and Other Ranks of 3 Corps of Engineer Services were associated with the opening ceremony.





## Women Soldiers' Quick Reaction Rider Team formed

Following the conceptual layout of Major General U D Wijesekera RWP RSP USP rcds psc Commander, Security Force Headquarters, (Mullaittivu), Quick Reaction Rider Team was formed with its own women soldiers team with the participation of 08 members of 4 (V) Women's Corps fulfilling a long-standing requirement of the Mullaittivu area. Upon the successful completion of their training, those women riders received their rider equipment from Major General U D Wijesekera RWP RSP USP rcds psc Commander, Security Force Headquarters, (Mullaittivu) on 21 May 2023.



## Free books and accessories for 603 Mullaittivu students



603 students from Muthuyankaddukulam Government Tamil Mixed School, Muththu Vinayagapuram Primary School, Muthuyankaddukulam Government Tamil Mixed School received exercise books, school accessories and educational instruments to the value of Rs 1.2 million, on 10 May 2023.

Major General U D Wijesekera RWP RSP USP rcds psc Commander, Security Forces (Mullaittivu) graced the distribution ceremony as the Chief Guest. Mrs. Thilini Athukorala of Maharagama 'Lakdana' Backbench Media Network sponsored for the charity event. Major General H D W K N Eriyagama RWP RSP General Officer Commanding, 64 Infantry Division, Mrs. Thilini Athukorala of Maharagama 'Lakdana' Backbench Media Network and staff participated in the event.



## New house for a deserved family in Matugama

The troops of the 12 Field Engineers Regiment, under the close supervision of the 612 Infantry Brigade and an the guidance of the 61 Infantry Division, constructed a new house for a needy family residing in the Kopiwatta area of the Matugama Divisional Secretariat in the Kalutara District and vested in the beneficiary on 22 May 2023.

Mrs. Madasami Manjula a mother of four children who was living in impoverished conditions was brought into notice of the philanthropists of the area and accordingly the required technical expertise and manpower for the construction was supplied by the Sri Lanka Army under the directions of the Commander of the Army.

TDK Trade Links Pvt. Ltd, provided the much required financial generosity for the construction. Troops of Security Force Headquarters (West) under the supervision of Commander, Security Force Headquarters (West) completed the project. The Chief of Defence Staff office also sponsored the project with Rs. 300,000.00, and Rs. 486,000.00 was coordinated by the 12 Field Engineers Regiment from donors. Further, the total cost of the project was around Rs. 2.4 millions.

Major General D M K D B Pussella RWP RSP Commander Security Forces (West), graced the auspicious house-warming as the Chief Guest, together with Major General H M U Herath RWP RSP USP Hdmc psc General Officer Commanding 61 Infantry Division and Brigadier M W S Millagala RWP RSP USP psc Commander, 612 Infantry Brigade.



## Public Display of 'Sacred Relic' at Bodhirajaramaya - Panagoda



In line with the Vesak Festival 2023, troops of Security Forces Headquarters (West) and Sri Lanka Army Buddhist Association together with members of 'Shri Saman Meth Sansadaya' organised a public display of omniscient sacred relics public display of omniscient sacred relic in the fragrance chambers of Shri Saman Meth Sansadaya on 5 and 6 May 2023 at Bodhirajaramaya Army temple, Panagoda. Major General D M K D B Pussella RWP RSP Commander, Security Forces (West), provided much required assistance for the event at the request of the Sri Saman Meth Sansadaya under the directions of Commander of the Army.



## Water purification for Buttala school



Fulfilling a long-standing requirement of residents in Gonaganara in Monaragala District troops of 20th Battalion Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment installed a water purification. Commanding Officer and Troops of 20 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment upon the guidance of Commander Security Force (Central) initiated the project. In line with the same event, 310 stationery packs and school shoe pairs for the students were also distributed. Offering alms for 15 Venerable Maha Sangha and offering lunch for parents of the deserving students were also happened during the programme. Major General W R M M Ratnayaka RWP RSP USP ndu Commander, Security Force (Central) General Officer Commanding 12 Infantry Division, Commander 121 Infantry Brigade, Donors, Officers and Troops participated in the programme.

## Three-day training course for Quick Reaction Rider Team and Internal Security Team

Three-day workshop for Quick Reaction Rider Team and Internal Security Team was held on 4, 5 and 6 April 2023 under the guidance of Major General W R M M Ratnayaka RWP RSP USP ndu Commander, Security Force Headquarters (Central). The training was conducted by well-trained instructors.





## 12 Infantry Division celebrates 12th Anniversary



12th anniversary of 12 Infantry Division was held at the 12 Infantry Division premises under the patronage of Major General G M N Perera RWP RSP USP ndc. Series of events took place with the participation of Officers and Other Ranks of the 12 Infantry Division.



## Abhimansala – III celebrates 9th Anniversary

The 9th anniversary of Abhimansala – III was held on 25 May 2023 at the Abhimansala – III premises. Troop address, offering alms for the Venerable Maha Sangha, and holding all night pirith chanting were also held in line with the anniversary events with the participation of staff, rehabilitating War Heroes, and Other Ranks.

## 7 SLSR celebrates 33rd Anniversary



7 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment celebrated its 33rd anniversary at the 7 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment premises at Omantei, Vavuniya with the series of events under the patronage of Major D M J A Dasanayaka RSP USP psc Commanding Officer, 7 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment.

## 11 SLSR celebrates 29th Anniversary

29th anniversary of 11 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment celebrated on 16 April 2023 following a series of events including religious events. An alms giving and a bhodhi pooja were held in line with the anniversary celebrations revering the fallen War Heroes.





# Islandwide Vesak Delight and Splendour



A Vesak Zone and alms hall were organised under the supervision of Major General S U M N Manage WWV RWP RSP psc Commander, 1 Corps on 5 and 7 May 2023 at the Iranamadu and Kilinochchi areas.



A delicious lunch was offered for the Vathiri Sri Paramananda Child and Elder's Home in Karaweddi on 13 May 2023 in line with the Thrice Blessed Day.



A Vesak Zone and alms hall were organised under the supervision of Major General S R K Hettiarachchi RSP USP ndu psc Commander Security Force Headquarters (East) in line with the Vesak Full Moon Poya Day.

Under the supervision of Commanding Officer of 17 (V) Gajaba Regiment, a cool drink dansal was organised in line with the Vesak Full Moon Poya Day.





Following the conceptual layout of Major General D B S N Bothota RWP RSP VSV USP psc Commander, Security Force Headquarters (Jaffna) a series of religious events were organised in line with the thrice blessed day by the troops serving at Security Force Headquarters (Jaffna) with the intention to strengthen the reconciliation, coexistence and goodwill among the different ethnicities.

Under the supervision of Major General S W B Welagedara RSP VSV USP ndc General Officer Commanding 51 Infantry Division, troops of 51 Infantry Division organised a two day Vesak Zone at Sri Naga Vihara temple premises on 5 May 2023. Honourable Minister of Fisheries Douglas Devananda graced the event as the Chief Guest for the Vesak programme, together with Honorable Jeevan Thiagarajah, Governor of Northern Province. A spectacle of devotional songs (Bakthi Gee), jointly presented by undergraduates of University of Jaffna and rice and cool drink dansals were also held in line with the event.

In line with the month of blessing, troops of 52 Infantry Division held a Vesak lanterns display and short eats dansal at the premises following guidelines of Major General K P S A Fernando RWP RSP ndu General Officer Commanding, 52 Infantry Division. 521 Infantry Brigade also organised flat bread dansal and 521 Infantry Brigade organised ice cream dansal. 7 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment organised a flat bread and tea while 11 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment organised a coriander dansal for the devotees in the area.

55 Infantry Division organised a series of events in line with the Vesak Full Moon Poya Day under the guidance of Major General M K U P Gunarathna RSP ndu psc IG General Officer Commanding, 55 Infantry Division. A Dhamma sermon and a Vesak zone were held at War Heroes Monument, Elephant Pass and Kadeyikadu area. In line with the same event rice parcels were distributed for 1500 residents in the area. School accessories were also distributed for 100 deserving students.







All Ranks of 24 Infantry Division including the troops of under command Brigades and the Battalions, celebrated the Vesak Festival 2023 symbolising religious prosperity, in a grand manner at the 24 Infantry Division under the fullest supervision of General Officer Commanding, 24 Infantry Division.



Under the supervision of General Officer Commanding, 23 Infantry Division organised a Vesak Zone with the assistance of Officers at the 23 Infantry Division Headquarters. Series of dansal, Vesak lantanas display added significance for the celebrations.

64 Infantry Division organised a colourful Vesak zone in the Oddusudan town in line with the Vesak Full Moon Poya Day. 641, 642, 643 Infantry Brigades, 8 Sri Lanka Artillery, 14 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment, 23 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment and 17 (V) Gajaba Regiment crafted creative works and lanterns were displayed for the sightseers in the area. Further a bun and tea dansal was also arranged for the devotees who visited the area.



Troops of 58 Infantry Division organised a series of religious events in line with the Vesak Full Moon day on 5 May 2023 under the supervision of General Officer Commanding, 58 Infantry Division. Offering alms for the Venerable Maha Sangha, holding Bhodhi Pooja, placing a Bhudha Statue for the Abhayrama Temple was also held in line with the event. Mrs. Sara Yapa the mother of fallen War Hero, joining the commemorative project set free a cow, in line with the same event. A colourful vesak zone was also held in line with the celebrations.





Troops of 57 Infantry Division renovated and painted the pagoda, shrine of Lord Buddha (Budu Madura), perimeter wall (Walakulu Bemma), and the temple bell tower (Ghantara Kuluna) at Sri Sugatha Viharaya in Mankulam and opened them up on Vesak Full Moon Poya day on 5 May 2023 for the devotees. The renovation was conducted under the supervision of 573 Infantry Brigade and Mr. R.M Ravishantha, Mr. Manoj Chandima Wimalanath and Mr. Chandrashan Fernando extended the financial generosity.



With the motive of raising spiritual standards of members of Security Force Headquarters (Wanni) a 'Dhamma' sermon was organised under the theme 'Sith Niwa Hama Ena Ama Budhu Guna Suwanda' by Venerable Balangoda Radha Thero, the incumbent at Belihuloya Meditation Centre on 24 May 2023. Navy and Air Force personnel were also participated in the Dhamma event. Brigadier S P G Gamage RWP USP Brigadier General Staff, Security Force Headquarters (Wanni) together with 100 Officers, and 1200 Other Ranks of tri services in Wanni attended the religious programme.



The 61 Infantry Division Headquarters, along with its Brigades and Battalions, organised a 'Rice Dansala' and Vesak Zone near 61 Infantry Division Headquarters. The programme was implemented under the conceptual guidance of Major General H M U Herath RWP RSP USP Hdmc psc General officer Commanding 61 Infantry Division. Devotees of in the area praised the event.



## Internally displaced civilians rescued



Troops of 17 (V) Sri Lanka National Guard rescued internally displaced 4 civilians at Kumburupiddi, Maduwankulam, and Pooney- Aru jungle area on 9 May 2023. The rescued 4 were street venders and lost their way when they entered into the jungle for fruit picking for selling. However, they were not able to find their way back to their homes.

Later, at the request of Police Station, Kamburupiddi and the supervision of Commander, 221 Infantry Brigade troops of 17 (V) Sri Lanka National Guard were able to rescue the civilians safely. 1 male and 3 women vender swere accordingly rescued.

## Dry Rations from 521 Infantry Brigade



Under the coordination of Colonel M V R Fernando RWP RSP USP Commander, 521 Infantry Brigade and the supervision of Civil Affairs Officers, a dry ration distribution was held on 12 May 2023 at the 521 Infantry Brigade Headquarters. 50 deserving families from Achchiweli, Valleyi, and Urikkadu were benefited form the programme.

## A wheelchair from 9 Sri Lanka National Guard

9 Sri Lanka National Guard donated a new wheelchair to a 15-year-old handicapped child of a poverty stricken family with 7 members residing at Sugandipuram, Mullaittivu on 5 May 2023 on account of 'Vesak' full Moon Poya Day. The charity event was came into reality under the guidance of Major General S Kasthurimudali RSP ndc psc General Officer Commanding, 68 Infantry Division and Brigadier N D P Gunathunga Commander, 681 Infantry Brigade. Major H P I Kumara Commanding Officer of 9 Sri Lanka National Guard, Officers and Other Ranks jointly contributed for the wheelchair.





## ***Donation for Nawatkuli Lakdaru preschool kids***

School accessories and water bottles were distributed among 26 kids studying at Nawatkuli Lakdaru preschool in the Jaffna peninsula as a result of the generosity extended by Major K G C K Kudagamage of 11 Field Engineers Regiment and Other Ranks. In line with the same event a water purification machine was also gifted for the pre school authority.



## **COCONUT SAPLINGS FROM 653 INFANTRY BRIGADE**

Troops of 17 (V) Sri Lanka Light Infantry under command to 653 Infantry Brigade distributed 80 coconut saplings among 16 families living in Madu, Periyapandiwichchan at the Priyapandiwichchan Grama Niladari Office on 18 May 2023 under the patronage of the Commanding Officer, 17 (V) Sri Lanka Light Infantry. Coconut Cultivation Board supplied the coconut saplings for the programme.

## **Baby items for 200 expecting mothers**

11 Infantry Division distributed a stock of essentials and a delicious lunch for 200 pregnant women in the Kandy National Hospital on 19 April 2023 under the supervision of Major General S R B Aluvihare RWP RSP USP ndu psc General Officer Commanding of the 11 Infantry Division. Venerable Shreelananda Thero of Asgiriya Maha Vihara in Kandy extended the financial generosity for the task.



## **Donation for Lumbini Viharaya**



Troops of 57 Infantry Division constructed a shrine room and an altar for offerings and vested it in devotees on 5 May 2023 amidst religious observances responding the request of Venerable Ingiriye Sri Dharmalankara Thero Incumbent at Kilinochchi Lumbini Viharaya in Ingiriya. .



## Provost Marshal educates Officers

Directorate of Provost at the Army Headquarters conducted a comprehensive workshop for Officers of the Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police (SLCMP) on 26 April 2023 under the theme 'Military Police & Its Designated Role'.

Major General A C A De Zoysa USP HDMC Lsc Provost Marshal of the Army delivered the lecture and educated the Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police Officers. Commandant, Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police Training School, Commanding Officers of respective Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police Units, Senior Officers and Officers participated in the workshop.



## "Healthy Army - Healthy Nation" project reaches CES



Another successful phase of "Healthy Army - Healthy Nation" project launched by Colombo Army Hospital was conducted at the Corps of Engineer Services (CES) Regiment lecture hall on 17 May 2023 at the Regimental Centre, Corps of Engineer Services. The Consultant Physician Brigadier (Retd) Dr. A S M Wijewardena USP delivered the lecture which focused on healthy life pattern, non-communicable diseases (NCD's) and common health problems of Army personnel and their families. 22 Officers and 90 Other Ranks of the Security Force Headquarters (West) on the directions of the Commander, Security Forces (West) joined the programme.

## BATTALION TRAINING SCHOOL INITIATES COURSES FOR 2023



Battalion Training School, Ampara marked the initiation of its course curricula with "Senior Leadership and Development Programme No. 44" and "Method of Instructions No. 65" from 24 April 2023 to 20 May 2023 at Battalion Training School, Ampara. Colonel A K C S De Silva RSP Commandant, Battalion Training School, Ampara initiated the opening remarks of the course. Officers and Other Ranks participated in the opening remarks.



## Lunch treat for residents at Rajagiriya Elders' Home



Troops of 144 Infantry Brigade offered a delicious lunch and essentials to the adults and children resident at the Salvation Army-managed Elders' Home on account of 'Vesak' festival on 4 May 2023. The event was held under the patronage of Commanding Officer, 144 Infantry Brigade with the participation of Senior Staff Officers, Civil coordinating Officers and Other Ranks. 45 adults and 30 children residing at the Salvation Army - Elders' Home were benefited from the programme.

## CELEBRATING A B'DAY OF A WAR HERO



Brigadier T S Balasuriya Commandant, Mihindu Seth Medura celebrated 43rd birthday of WO II Dayarathne C D A of 6 Gemunu Watch who is a resident War Hero of Mihindu Seth Medura due to the permanent injuries sustained as a result of the military operations.

## NOTE TO READERS

The publishers of "Bellator" cannot accept the responsibility of the accuracy of any advertisements. Bellator readers are strongly recommended to make own enquires before sending any money or entering into any legal binding agreement with them.





## SLAVF DEPUTY COMMANDANT VISITS 2(V) SLAGSC

Major General M T K R Silva KSP Deputy Commandant, Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force visited the 2 (V) Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps camp at Panagoda on 10 May 2023 in order to review its administrative procedures. Major P D S N Gunarathne Commanding Officer, 2 (V) Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps warmly welcomed the Deputy Commandant, Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force and briefed on the role and tasks of the battalion.

Further, addressing the troops, Deputy Commandant, Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force emphasised the importance of training, wellbeing and welfare of Officers and Other Ranks while highlighting the necessity of improving the effectiveness of duties in areas of responsibility.

## 'Story of the World' presented to French Ambassador



Colonel M B B N Herath RSP psc who is presently holding the office of Director Media at the Ministry of Defence, presented a copy of his latest book, 'Story of the World' to HE Jean-François Pactet, Ambassador of France to Sri Lanka. The Maritime Security Advisor at the French Embassy in Colombo, Commander Jean-Baptiste Trouche was also present during the occasion. HE Jean-François Pactet and Commander Jean-Baptiste Trouche also took time off to exchange a few words with the author, Colonel M B B N Herath RSP psc which focused on international affairs and present-day world's order.

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Your Story: English/ Times New Roman/ Font Size 12/ on or before 20th of every month / 1500 words maximum





## MORE PHYSICAL INSTRUCTORS FOR ARMY

The Passing out Parades of the Physical Training Instructor Course for Officers- No: 15, Advanced Physical Training Instructor Course No: 45 and the Assistant Physical Training Instructor Course-No: 128 of the Army Physical Training Centre (APTC) were held at Panagoda Army Indoor Stadium on 8 May 2023.

Major General D M K D B Pussella RWP RSP Commander, Security Force Headquarters (West) and Colonel of the Regiment, Mechanized Infantry Regiment graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

10 Officers followed Officers' Physical Training Instructor Course No. 15. 18 Other Ranks followed the Advanced Physical Training Instructor Course No. 45. Similarly, 153 Other Ranks qualified as Assistant Physical Training Instructors under the Course No. 128. Commander, Security Force Headquarters (West) awarded the certificates for the candidates.

## 57 Infantry Division trains Kilinochchi students for Handball



With the aim of improving sports skills of students in Kilinochchi area, 57 Infantry Division organised a two-day long handball training workshop at the Kilinochchi Sports Stadium from 26 May 2023 to 27 May 2023 with the participation of 150 students and 12 school Sports Instructors. Instructors of the Sri Lanka Army HandBall Committee provided the much-required resources for the workshop. General Officer Commanding of the 57 Infantry Division, Senior Officers, Officers, Other Ranks, Assistant Education Director of Kilinochchi Zonal Education Office and teachers participated in the workshop.





**SRI LANKA ARMY ENLIGHTENED ON  
'PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF THE LAW' &  
'CONTROLLED MIND FOR HAPPY LIFE'**





A one-day programme on 'Psychological Guidance to Control the Mind' and 'Psychological Aspects of the Law' was held on 10 May 2023 at the Army Indoor Physical Training Gymnasium for the troops serving under the Security Force Headquarters (West).

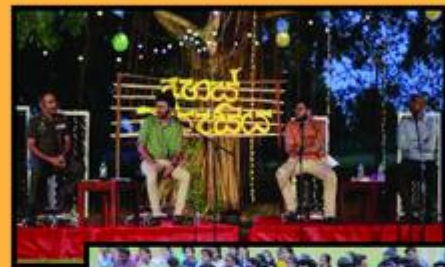
The thought provoking one day workshop was designed under the conceptual layout of Brigadier K M P S B Kulatunga RSP ndc psc Director of Psychological Operations on the directions of the Commander of the Army. Major General D M K D B Pussella RWP RSP Commander, Security Forces (West), and his staff extended their fullest support to make the event a success.

Renowned lawyer, Mrs. Meda De Alwis enlightened the audience delivering an educative lecture on 'Psychological Aspects of the Law', responding the issues taking examples from the legal and academic perspectives. Veteran psychological lecturer, Mrs. Ama Dissanayaka conducted an inspirational lecture on 'Controlled Mind for Happy Life' to enhance mental health among the troops.

52 Officers and 750 Other Ranks physically attended the timely valuable workshop and various Branches, Directorates at Army Headquarters, Security Force Headquarters, Divisions, Brigades, Regimental Centers, Units, Training Schools, and Other Institutes witnessed through virtual platform.



## 'AHAS GEE MIYASIYA' MUSICAL MISCELLANY



"Ahas Gee Miyasiya" Musical Miscellany organized by University of Vocational Technology was held at the university premises with the participation of many undergraduates and eminent lecturers under the theme of "War and Art" in line with the 14th anniversary of Victory Day on 19 May 2023. Dr Dharsana Ashoka Kumara Lecturer of University of Kelaniya, Sudesh Kawishwara Lecturer of Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Gayan Madusanka Lecturer of University of Vocational Technology, and Colonel Sujith Chaminda Edirisinghe from Directorate of Psychological Operations provided insightful assistance for the programme.

The intellectuals highlighted the importance of adding war literature to the literature as a genre and expressed their views in different perspectives and angles while undergraduates coloured the event with enchanting music and songs. The programme aimed to build an intellectual sphere to prevent the rise of another conflict inside the country through sharing and educating the war stores in all layers of society. Further, it enhanced the knowledge of the academic and non-academic staff of the university.





## ASVU DISTRIBUTES GIFT PARCELS AMONG PREGNANT WOMEN SOLDIERS

A programme of distributing gift parcels among Pregnant Women Soldiers was held on 8 May 2023 at the Regimental Centre Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps under the patronage of Mrs. Janaki Liyanage President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit. Those gift packs with essentials, each worth Rs 11,500.00 contained babyware, soap, powder, baby cot mattress, roller pillows, linen, disinfectants, kids' aprons, feeding bottles, etc. required for the delivery. In line with the same event, President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit declared open the newly-built beauty salon 'Olive' in the Regimental Centre, Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps.



This project was conceptualised by Mrs Janaki Liyanage, President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit together with Major General U D Wijesekera RWP RSP USP rcds psc Colonel Commandant of Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps and Commander, Security Force Headquarters (Mullaitivu) and Mrs. Mrs Shyamali Wijesekera Chairperson, Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps Seva Vanitha Branch.







## PRESIDENT-ASVU ENCOURAGES WAR HEROES AT 'RANAVIRU SEVANA' RAGAMA

With the objective of raising mental stability and wellness of permanently-injured War Heroes under recuperation and rehabilitation, Mrs. Janaki Liyanage President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit together with several Senior Officers visited Ranaviru Sevana at Ragama on 23 May 2023. After interacting with those resident War Heroes inquiring their wellbeing, President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit distributed gift parcels for them. Then after, President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit joined to observe the prosthetic and orthotic workshop for production of artificial shoes and limbs.

## INCENTIVES AND SCHOLARSHIPS FROM SLAC - SEVA VANITHA BRANCH

The Sri Lanka Armoured Corps Seva Vanitha Branch, awarded scholarships to children of Army families, financial aids for the soldiers and the civil staff serving the Sri Lanka Armoured Corps on 25 May 2023 at the Rock House Army Camp.

Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit graced the occasion as the Chief Guest at the invitation of Mrs (Dr) Harshini Bothota Chairperson Sri Lanka Armoured Corps Seva Vanitha Branch. During the ceremony, 20 scholarships, each worth of Rs 36,000.00 were provided along with four financial aids, each worth of Rs 60,000.00 to uplift self - employment opportunities of soldiers' spouses. Rs 200,000.00 was distributed to construct a concrete wall for protection of a soldier's residence and Rs 75,000.00 was given for repairing of the roof of a civil employees' accommodation and a wheelchair was donated to an ailing mother of one soldier during the occasion.





## GENEROUS DISTRIBUTION FROM SRI LANKA ARTILLERY SEVA VANITHA BRANCH

In parallel with its Annual General Meeting 2023, Sri Lanka Artillery Seva Vanitha Branch distributed a large stock of dry ration packs among civil employees serving in all Sri Lanka Artillery formations on 6 April 2023. Mrs. Chama Wanasinghe Chairperson, Sri Lanka Artillery Seva Vanitha Branch and Major General W A S S Wanasinghe RSP VSV USP ndu Colonel Commandant, Sri Lanka Artillery Regiment graced the event as distinguished Guests.



## NEW YEAR GIFTS FROM SLE-SEVA VANITHA BRANCH FOR KUSUMA ELDERS' HOME

The Sri Lanka Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch extended its assistance to the needy in Embilipitiya Elders' Home on account of Sinhala and Tamil New Year on 13 April 2023 gifting dry rations and offering a sumptuous dinner for elderly women at Kusuma Elderly Home. The programme was held under the guidance of Mrs. Shammi Jayawardena Chairperson, Sri Lanka Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch with the participation of several members of Sri Lanka Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch.

Major General M K Jayawardena RSP VSV USP ndu Colonel Commandant of the Corps of Sri Lanka Engineers together with Mrs. Shammi Jayawardena Chairperson, Sri Lanka Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch, Senior Officers of participated in the event.



## SRI LANKA LIGHT INFANTRY SEVA VANITHA BRANCH HOLDS A DHAMMA SERMON



Sri Lanka Light Infantry Seva Vanitha held a 'Dhamma' Sermon on account of the Vesak Day at Sri Lanka Light Infantry Regimental Centre auditorium with the participation of all Officers and Other Ranks and the members of Sri Lanka Light Infantry Seva Vanitha Branch. Venerable Udupussellayaye Chandima Thero at Gangodavila Sunethra Mahadevi Buddhist Centre, delivered a Dhamma sermon and invoked the blessings for fallen and differently-abled War Heroes and serving Officers, Other Ranks, and civil staff of Sri Lanka Army. The programme was held on 13 May 2023 under the fullest supervision of Mrs. Dhanusha Weerasooriya, Chairperson, Sri Lanka Light Infantry Seva Vanitha Branch.



## SCHOOL UNIFORMS AND SCHOLARSHIPS FROM SLSR – SEVA VANITHA BRANCH

Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch organised a special event to distribute school uniforms and scholarships for children of Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment troops and civil staff on 28 May 2023 under the patronage of Mrs. Rani Jayathilake, a former President of Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch at the invitation of Mrs. Omila Jayawardena, Chairperson Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch.

19 students who have excelled more than 170 marks from the grade five scholarship examination and 6 students who have earned more than 8 "A" passes from the Ordinary Level examination accordingly received scholarships.

Simultaneously, 67 students received school uniforms and school shoes. Also, a cheque worth of Rs.400000.00 was presented to the wife of late Sargeant Anura EM PWV as financial support for her daughter abroad.



## NEW BUILDING FOR EKNELIGODA SCHOOL FROM GEMUNU WATCH SEVA VANITHA BRANCH

Responding to a request of school authorities, troops of Gemunu Watch together with the sponsorship provided jointly by lecturers and undergraduates at the Management Faculty of the University of Sri Jayawardanapura renovated two school buildings at Ekneligoda School in Kuruwita and vested in the beneficiaries on 3 May 2023. Upon completion of renovations, a much-needed water pumping machine was also installed ensuring the proper drinking facility for the students. In line with the same event a stock of school accessories and essentials were also awarded to school students

Major General E A D P Edirisinghe psc Colonel of the Regiment, Gemunu Watch together with Mrs. Shalika Edirisinghe Chairperson, GW Seva Vanitha Branch Officers, Other Ranks, participated in the event.



## VIJAYABAHU INFANTRY REGIMENT SEVA VANITHA BRANCH HOLDS A BLOOD DONATION



Blood donation programme organised by Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch was held with the participation of Chairperson of Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch on 9 May 2023. The programme was carried into reality under the conceptual guidelines of Major General S U M N Manage WWV RWP RSP psc Colonel of the Regiment, Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment and Director General General Staff. Senior Members of the Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks participated in the programme. A total of 260 Army personnel donated blood during this project.



## MECHANIZED INFANTRY SEVA VANITHA BRANCH ORGANISES A MOBILE DENTAL CLINIC



"Viru Kekulu Smile with Sudantha"- mobile dental clinic was held at Sri Lanka Signal Corps premises at Pangoda on 28 April 2023 with the collaboration of Link Natural Pvt Ltd under the guidance of Sri Lanka Army Seva Vanitha Unit. Mrs. Himali Pussalla Head of Viru Kekulu School and Chairperson, Mechanized Infantry Seva Vanitha Branch graced the event as the Chief Guest.

Before commencing the mobile dental clinic, Dental Specialist Mrs. Sakuntala Gunawardhene conducted an awareness lecture for the parents of the Viru Kekulu School, Panagoda. In line with the same event gift parcels extended by Sri Lanka Army Seva Vanitha Unit were distributed among 160 kids of Viru Kekulu School, Panagoda.

## MEALS TO ELDERS FROM MILITARY INTELLIGENCE CORPS SEVA VANITHA BRANCH

The monthly alms-giving project for Warusawithana Elders' Home in Polwatte, Ambalangoda took place on 29 April 2023 invoking the blessings for fallen and differently-abled War Heroes with the participation of Chairperson, Military Intelligence Corps Seva Vanitha Branch. Accordingly, all three meals provided for 20 adults inclusive of 5 males and 15 females.



## GIFT PARCELS FROM SRI LANKA ARMY SERVICE CORPS SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



A programme to distribute dry ration packs and school accessories among civil employees of the Army and their children were held on 30 March 2023 at 1 Sri Lanka Army Service Corps auditorium at Panagoda. A group of 37 civil employees serving the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps (SLASC) received those incentives during the brief ceremony, attended by Mrs. Thushari Wanigasekara, Chairperson Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch. Senior members of the Seva Vanitha Branch, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks participated in this occasion.



## SLAMC-SEVA VANITHA BRANCH VISITS 'ABIMANSALA-I'



The Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps Seva Vanitha Branch visited Abimansala – I and interacted with differently able War Heroes. During the visit, members of Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps Seva Vanitha Branch gave away gift parcels and refreshments to the War Heroes along with a consignment of sanitary items, necessary for those War Heroes. Mrs. Nilmini Fernando, Chairperson members of Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps Seva Vanitha Branch joined the visit.

## SLEME- SEVA VANITHA BRANCH BUILDS A NEW HOUSE

Mrs. Nandani Samarakoon Chairperson, Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch inspected the construction of a house for Staff Thisa K A on 1 May 2023 at Induruwa. Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch donated Rs 500,000.00 for the construction. Major General S P A I M B Samarakoon Hdmc Lsc Colonel Commandant, Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Regiment and Commander Army Logistic Command , Officers and beneficiaries participated in.



## CORPS OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK SEVA VANITHA BRANCH HOLDS A MEETING



With the intention to uplift the living standards of differently-abled, in service and retired War Heroes and their families, Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch has implemented a project to produce arts and crafts, agri products, and eco - friendly products targeting local and international market under the supervision of Mrs. Shanthi Abesekara Chairperson, Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch. A discussion on the proposed project was held on 26 May 2023 at the office of Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch with the participation of Mrs. Shanthi Abesekara Chairperson, Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch and Colonel N Mahavithana KSP Brigadier (Coordinating) Army Seva Vanitha Unit.



HEROES ADORNED WITH PARAMA WEERA VIBUSHANAYA



# THE VALOUR AT Putumattalan

S/COM 552009 STAFF SERGEANT  
PERERA KGAN LR PWV RSP  
COMMANDO REGIMENT

Nirosha Lakmal Ruwan Perera was born on 24 October 1976 for Mr Kurugamage Ruban Perera and Mrs. Sumana Wasalathanthri as their first child in Balangoda blooming millions of hopes for parents. He was a good brother to the sister, having a beautiful childhood. He entered Kirimatithanna Vidyalaya, Rathnapura in Balangoda on 19 January 1982 for primary studies and entered Sri Dharmananda Pirivena for further studies on 5 March 1990. He completed his studies winning the hearts of all teachers and the principal fulfilling all requirements as a dutiful child. He was good at boxing, and volleyball, and played the role of prefect in the school.

After completing the Advanced Level examination, taking the family burden into his shoulder, he and joined the mining industry as a labour. After that, he joined Wall Tiles Pvt Ltd in Balangoda and became a support for the family. After the service for two years, he went to stay with a his sister living in Ratmalana and learned taekwondo.

At the same time, he got the idea to join the Sri Lanka Army in 1996 at a time when brutal terrorism had spread around the country as a deadly menace. The terrorist acts which were limited to North gradually expanded to Colombo taking the lives of many innocent civilians. He decided to join the Sri Lanka Army.

Young and bold Niroshan Lakmal heard the news of recruitment for the Commando Regiment. On 4 July 1996, he entered Commando Regiment under recruitment No.13 before the objections of his mother. However, amid the falling tears, his parents permitted their son to undertake the laborious task of being a Commando. After completing the preliminary training successfully under recruit course No. 23 at Commando Training School at Uva Kuda Oya and then he joined the most toughest Commando Training under Basic Commando Course No. 40. With the successful completion of the commando training he was fortunate to wear the most privileged headgear of the Sri Lanka Army- The Maroon Beret. Accordingly, he enrolled in the 2 Commando Regiment.





**STAFF SERGEANT PERERA AS A CHILD**

With their absorption to 2 Commando Regiment, he was deployed at North and performed his tasks well manner, winning the hearts of comrades. Due to his efficiency and ability to perform his tasks well, he was able to join "Jayasikuru Operation". Due to his dedicated service, he was promoted to Lance Corporal on 25 August 1998. He was badly wounded during his deployment under "D" Squadron on 27 March 2000 at Serampattu in Jaffna as a result of heavy fire from the enemy.

At the meantime, he met Mrs. Irosha Udayangani, and entered into marriage with the blessings of his parents. On 25 April 2004 he marked another segment in his career with his new promotion to the rank of Corporal. His life was colored with the birth of his daughter on 7 November 2004. Soon Corporal Niroshan was blessed with a second daughter on 13 May 2007.

Meanwhile, he performed his duties well and his bravery, and dedication was always highlighted among the comrades. Due to this quality he was fortunate to serve in UN peacekeeping missions and returned to motherland on 1 January 2009. He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant as a result of his qualities.

Apart from the ranks he had earned number of medals including Ranasura Padakkama, Deshaputra Award, North and East Operation Medal, Nidahas Suwana Jayanthi Medal and Foreign Service Medal. It was the time where enemy had decided to keep the civilians as a protective shield. Meantime enemy further strengthened their operational areas preventing the forces entrance placing clamos and booby traps while building trenches.

It was 19 April 2009. The forces decided to group under two teams as "A" and "D" and target the enemy located in East and West in the early morning. After a deadly battle they were able to rescue the innocent civilians trapped in the enemy hostage. In time the battle turned its fearsome form with the sudden attack came from enemy bunker. It was a great obstacle for Sergeant Niroshan's team. Without considering the enemy fire, crossing all obstacles, Sergeant Niroshan's team reached the target. At this point, he realised that there is no further march without eliminating the fire power of the enemy. Taking the responsibility to his shoulder, Sergeant Niroshan bravely marched forward to the face of the enemy taking the best covers from the ground. However, an unexpected enemy attack took the life of this brave warrior.

*It was 19 April 2009. The forces decided to group under two teams as 'A' and 'D' and target the enemy located in East and West in the early morning. After a deadly battle they were able to rescue the innocent civilians trapped in the enemy hostage. In time, the battle, turned its fearsome form with the sudden attack came from enemy bunker. It was a great obstacle for Sergeant Niroshan's team. Without considering the enemy fire, crossing all obstacles, Sergeant Niroshan's team reached the target. At this point, he realised that there is no further march without eliminating the fire power of the enemy. Taking the responsibility to his shoulder, Sergeant Niroshan bravely marched forward to the face of the enemy taking the best covers from the ground. However, an unexpected enemy attack took the life of this brave warrior.*

Following the tragic demise of warrior, who sincerely attempted to save the lives of innocents exhibiting his incredible courage was posthumously awarded Parama Weera Vibhushanaya for his individual acts of gallantry and conspicuous bravery of the most exceptional order in the face of the enemy on 15 July 2013 by His Excellency Mahinda Rajapaksha President of the Democratic and Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and Commander in Chief of Armed Forces at Temple Trees at the time.



Extracted from  
"Uththamachara"  
published by Sri Lanka Army Headquarters



# Charity Palmcard

## 1. LUNCH FOR 'PAADA YATHRA' DEVOTEES



Troops of Security Forces (Mullaitivu) offered delicious lunch for nearly 80 devotees, engaged in the annual 'Paada Yathra' (foot pilgrimage), bound for Kataragama offered on 7 May 2023 at Wattappalai Kannagi Amman Kovil in Wattappalai, Mullaitivu.

## 2. SCHOOL ACCESSORIES FOR HALAMBEWEDA STUDENTS



Troops of the 622 Infantry Brigade, distributed school accessories to the value of Rs 400,000.00 among 50 students studying at M/ Halambewewa Primary School in Welioya on 27 May 2023 at Dharmadheepa Welimaluwa temple.

## 3. DENGUE PREVENTION IN POLONNARUWA



Troops of 234 Infantry Brigade in Punani conducted a Dengue Prevention Programme in the East on 24 May 2023 with the participation of Health Inspectors in the MOH Polonnaruwa, Police officers of Polonnaruwa and local community members.

## 4. SELF-EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS FOR MARAWANKULAM VILLAGE



Troops of 562 Infantry Brigade enlightened civilians in Marawankulam in Vavuniya on self-employed job opportunities on 14 May 2023 at Marawankulam Government Tamil Medium School opening a new entrepreneur opportunities such as manufacturing candles, cloth floor mats, wicks, joss sticks and wax lamps.

## 5. INCENTIVES FOR KARAVEDDY STUDENTS



Troops of 551 Infantry Brigade distributed a stock of school accessories among needy children studying at Sri Narada Vidyalaya, Rajagamanin, Karaveddy on 15 May 2023. Old Pupils' Association of Sri Vajiragnana Dharmayathanaya, Maharagama extended the financial generosity for the task.

## 6. TWO LAPTOPS FOR UNIVERSITY ENTRANTS



Troops of the Security Force Headquarters (Jaffna) donated two laptops for two students, qualified to enter the Medical Faculty in the Jaffna University and Engineering Faculty in the University of Peradeniya on 14 May 2023.

## 7. 12 SLR SAVES FLOOD-TRAPPED SICK KID



Troops of 12 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment saved a 3-year-old girl who remained trapped in her own house being unable to move out in the midst of gushing flood waters at Welilethota on 16 May 2023.

## 8. TROOPS CLEAN FLOOD-AFFECTED DRINKING WATER WELLS



Troops of 3 (V) Gemunu Watch cleared three polluted drinking water wells on 15 and 16 May 2023 in Beragama (East) and Beragama (West) Grama Niladari Divisions in the Mulatiyana Divisional Secretariat in Matara district.



## 9. DRY RATION DISTRIBUTION IN JAFFNA



Troops of the 521 Infantry Brigade gave away dry ration packs to 50 needy families living in Achchuvely, Vallai and Urikkadu areas in the Jaffna peninsula on 12 May 2023.

## 10. LUNCH FOR VATHIRI ELDERS' HOME RESIDENTS



A special lunch was offered by 551 Infantry Brigade troops for 35 children and 10 adults, residing at Sri Paramananda Children's & Elders' Home in Vathiri, Karaveddy on 13 May 2023 as part of their community service, to be coincident with true spirits of Vesak.

## 11. MEDICAL CARE FOR 'PAADA YATHRA' DEVOTEES



Troops of the 552 Infantry Brigade offered refreshments and medical treatment to the pilgrims on 'Katharagama Paada Yathra' at the Elephant Pass on 9 May 2023.



## 12. SAVING FLOOD VICTIMS IN NEGOMBO



Troops of the 2 (V) Sri Lanka Army Service Corps swiftly responded and assisted flood victims in Katuwapitiya and Sellakanda Grama Niladhari divisions after torrential rains inundated their residential areas on 5 May 2023.

## 13. FREE SCHOOL ACCESSORIES FOR STUDENTS



144 Infantry Brigade held a programme to distribute a stock of school bags, accessories, equipment, exercise books and other stationery items among 197 school students at Tikiri Kumara Vidyalaya in Ambatale, Mulleriyawa, on 03 May 2023.





**HISTORY OF MILITARY**

**RANKS**





Military ranks are a system of hierarchical relationships within armed forces, police, intelligence agencies or other institutions organized along military lines. The military rank system defines dominance, authority, and responsibility in a military hierarchy. It incorporates the principles of exercising power and authority into the military chain of command—the succession of commanders superior to subordinates through which command is exercised. The military chain of command constructs an important component for organized collective action. Ranking systems have been known for most of military history to be advantageous for military operations, in particular with regards to logistics, command, and coordination. As time went on and military operations became larger and more complex, military ranks increased and the ranking systems themselves became more complex. Rank is not only used to designate leadership, but to establish pay-grade as well. As rank increases, pay-grade follows, but so does amount of responsibility. Within modern armed forces, the use of ranks is almost universal. Communist states have sometimes abolished ranks. Notable examples are the Soviet Red Army 1918–1935, the Chinese People's Liberation Army 1965–1988, and the Albanian People's Army 1966–1991, but they had to re-establish ranks after encountering operational difficulties of command and control.

From 501 BCE, the Athenians annually elected ten individuals to the rank of strategos, one for each of the ten "tribes" that had been created with the founding of the democracy. Strategos means "Army Leader" and is usually translated as "General". Originally these generals worked together with the old polemarchos ("Warlord") but over time the latter figure was absorbed into the generalship: each of the ten generals would rotate as polemarch for one day, and during this day his vote would serve as tie-breaker if necessary. The ten generals were equal to one another; there was no hierarchy among them. However, a basic form of democracy was in effect, the generals determined the battle plan by majority vote. Particular assignments might have been given to individual generals; inevitably there was a regular division of responsibilities. The rank that was subordinate to a top general was a taxiarchos, something akin to the modern brigadier. Below this was the syntagmatarchis, which can be translated as "leader of a regiment" (syntagma) and was therefore like a modern colonel. Below him was the tagmatarches, a commanding officer of a tagma (similar to the modern battalion). Next was the lokhagos, an officer who led an infantry unit called a lochos that consisted of roughly a hundred men, much the same as in a modern company led by a captain. The rank and file of the military in most of the Greek city states was composed of ordinary

citizens. Heavily armed foot soldiers were called hoplites and a hoplomachos was a drill or weapons instructor. A Greek cavalry (hippikon) regiment was called a hipparchia and was commanded by an epihipparch. The unit was split into two and led by two hipparchos. A Greek cavalry company was led by a tetrarchēs.

With the rise of Macedonia under Philip II of Macedon and Alexander the Great, the Greek military became professional, tactics became more sophisticated and additional levels of ranking developed. Foot soldiers were organized into heavy infantry phalanxes called phalangites. These were among the first troops ever to be drilled, and they fought packed in a close rectangular formation, typically eight men deep, with a leader at the head of each column (or file) and a secondary leader in the middle so that the back rows could move off to the sides if more frontage was needed. A tetrarchia was a unit of four files and a tetrarchēs was a commander of four files; a dilochia was a double file and a dilochitēs was a double-file leader; a lochos was a single file and a lochagos was a file leader; a dimoiria was a half file and a dimoirites was a half-file leader. Another name for the half file was a hēmiloichion with a hēmiloichitēs being a half-file leader. Different types of units, however, were divided differently and therefore their leaders had different titles. For example, under a numbering system by tens, a dekas or dekania was a unit of ten led by a dekarchos, a hekatontarchia was a unit of one hundred led by a hekatontarchos and a khiliostys or khiliarchia was a unit of a thousand led by a khiliarchos.

The use of formalized ranks came into widespread use with the Roman legions after the reforms by Marius. Comparisons to modern ranks, however, can only be loose because the Roman army's command structure was very different from the organisational structure of its modern counterparts. Military command was a political office in Rome. A commander needed to be equipped with imperium, a politico-religious concept. The king who possessed it was strictly forbidden to have it to avoid a return to the monarchy. In the republic, commanding was confined to consuls or to praetors, or in cases of necessity a dictator. Proconsuls, after the establishment of the office, were used. In imperial times, each legion was commanded by the emperor, who was technically either consul or proconsul. The commander could appoint a deputy, a so-called legate (legatus). The association of "legatus" with "legion" is folk etymology, as the meaning of legatus is "proxy" or "envoy". Legates were typically drawn from the Roman Senate for three-year terms. The political nature of high military command was even reflected here, in that legions were always subordinate to the governor, and





*primus pilus*

only the second and further legions stationed in a province had their own *legatus legionis*. Immediately beneath the commander (or his legate) were six military tribunes (*tribuni militum*), five of whom were young men of equestrian rank and one of whom was a nobleman who was headed for the senate. The latter is called *laticlavian tribune* (*tribunus laticlavus*) and was second in command. The other tribunes are called *tribuni angusticlavii* and are equivalent to staff officers in both senses of the term. They did not command a formation of their own. The term military tribune is even sometimes translated into English as "colonel" to avoid confusion with the political "tribunes of the people"; in addition, they must not either be confused with the "military tribunes with consular authority", who in early republican times could replace the consuls. The third highest officer of a legion, above the *angusticlavian tribunes*, was the *praefectus castrorum*. He differed much from the tribunes in that his office was not part of the rather administrative *cursus*, but normally filled by former centurions. The fighting men in the legion were formed into "ranks", rows of men who fought as a unit. Under Marius's new system, legions

were divided into ten cohorts (*cohortes*), each consisting of three *manipula*, each of them of two centuries, each consisting of between 60 and 160 men. Each century was led by a centurion (*centurio*, traditionally translated as captain), who was assisted by a number of junior officers, such as an *optio*. Centuries were further broken into ten *contubernia* of eight soldiers each. The *manipula* were commanded by one of their two centurions, the cohorts by one of their three *manipulum's* centurions; the most senior cohort-commanding centurions was called *primus pilus*. The ranks of centurions in the individual cohorts were, in descending order, *pilus prior*, *pilus posterior*, *princeps prior*, *princeps posterior*, *hastatus prior*, and *hastatus posterior*. Individual soldiers were referred to as soldiers (*milites*) or legionaries (*legionarii*).

Post-classical militaries did not have a unified rank structure while the feudal lords were in some ways equivalent to modern officers, they didn't have a strict hierarchy. A nobleman was obligated to bring a set number of troops when asked by his liege-lord, a king or merely a higher-ranked noble who had obtained his service by the gift of land. The troops' lord retained at least nominal control over them—many post-classical military planning sessions involved negotiating each lord's role in the coming battle—and each lord was allowed to leave after a predetermined amount of time had passed. The command structure of armies was generally loose and varied considerably. Typically, the king and high-ranking lords would call out for all lords to gather their troops for a campaign. They would appoint a renowned noble to organize the assembling forces, the marshal. The term field marshal came from the marshal then leading the army on the march, and being in charge of organizing camps and logistics. Tactics for an upcoming battle were often decided by councils of war among the nobles leading the largest forces. Outside of campaigns, the high constable had authority over the local constables, and commanders of the garrisons of major castles. The high constable might have authority in the army due to his role of head of the regular cavalry.

As the Middle Ages came to an end, the rank structure of post-classical armies became more formalized. The top officers were known as commissioned officers because their rank came from a royal commission. Army commissions were usually reserved for the aristocracy. The basic unit of the post-classical army was the company, a band of soldiers assigned (or raised) by a vassal lord on behalf of his lord (in later times the king himself). The vassal lord in command of the company was a commissioned officer with the rank of captain. Captain was derived from the Late Latin word *capitaneus* (meaning "head man" or chief). The commissioned officer assisting the captain with command of the company was the lieutenant. Lieutenant was derived from the French language; the *lieu* meaning "place" as in a position; and *tenant* meaning "holding" as in "holding a position"; thus a "lieutenant" is somebody who holds a position in the absence of their superior. When he was not assisting the captain, the lieutenant commanded a unit called a platoon, particularly a more specialized platoon. The word is derived from the 17th-century French *peloton*, meaning a small ball or small detachment of men, which came from *pelote*, a ball. The commissioned officer carrying the infantry company's flag was the ensign. The word ensign was derived from the Latin word *insignia*. In cavalry companies the equivalent rank was cornet. In English usage, these ranks were merged into the single rank of second lieutenant in the 19th century.

Not all officers received a commission from the king. Certain specialists were granted a warrant, certifying their expertise as craftsmen. These warrant officers assisted the commissioned officers but ranked above the non-commissioned officers (NCOs). They received their authority from superior officers rather than the king. The first NCOs were the armed servants (*men-at-arms*) of the aristocracy, assigned to command, organize and train the militia units raised for battle. After years of commanding a squad, an NCO could



be promoted to sergeant, the highest NCO rank. While a sergeant might have commanded a squad upon promotion, he usually became a staff officer. The sergeant was a jack of all trades, concerning himself with all aspects of administration to maintain the enlisted men serving under his commander. Over time, sergeants were differentiated into many ranks as various levels of sergeants were used by the commanders of various levels of units. A corporal commanded a squad. Squad derived from the Italian word for a "square" or "block" of soldiers. In fact, corporal was derived from the Italian caporal de squadra (head of the squad). Corporals were assisted by lancepesades. Lancepesades were veteran soldiers; lancepesade was derived from the Italian lancia spezzata meaning broken spear—the broken spear being a metaphor for combat experience, where such an occurrence was likely. The first lancepesades were simply experienced privates; who either assisted their corporal or performed the duties of a corporal themselves. It was this second function that made armies increasingly regard their lancepesades as a grade of corporal rather than a grade of private. As a result, the rank of lance corporal was derived from combining lancepesade and corporal. As the post-classical came to an end, kings increasingly relied on professional soldiers to fill the bottom ranks of their armies instead of militiamen. Each of these professionals began their careers as a private. The private was a man who signed a private contract with the company commander, offering his services in return for pay. The money was raised through taxation; those yeomen (smallholding peasants) who did not fulfil their annual 40-day militia service paid a tax that funded professional soldiers recruited from the yeomanry. This money was handed to the company commanders from the royal treasury, with the company commanders using the money to recruit the troops.

As armies grew larger, composed of multiple companies, one captain was granted general (overall) authority over the field armies by the king. In French history, lieutenant du roi was a title borne by the officer sent with military powers to represent the king in certain provinces. A lieutenant du roi was sometimes known as a lieutenant général to distinguish him from lieutenants subordinate to mere captains. The sergeant acting as staff officer to the captain general was known as the sergeant major. Around the end of the 16th century, companies were grouped into regiments. The officers commissioned to lead these regiments were called "colonels" (column officers). They were first appointed in Spain by King Ferdinand II of Aragon where they were also known as "coronellos" (crown officers) since they were appointed by the Crown. The first colonels were captains granted command of their regiments by commission of the king. The lieutenants of the colonel were the lieutenant colonels. In the 17th century, the sergeant of the colonel was the sergeant major. These were field officers, third in command of their regiments after their colonels and lieutenant colonels, with a role similar to the older, army-level sergeants major (although on a smaller scale). The older position became known as sergeant major general to distinguish it. Over time, the sergeant was dropped from both titles since both ranks were used for commissioned officers. This gave rise to the modern ranks of major and major general. This is the reason a major outranks a lieutenant, but a lieutenant general outranks a major general. Over time, the captain general began to be addressed, depending on the military

branch, as general of the infantry, general of the cavalry or general of the artillery, and these ones, over time, were shortened to simply general. The full title of sergeant major fell out of use until the latter part of the 18th century, when it began to be applied to the senior non-commissioned officer of an infantry battalion or cavalry regiment. Regiments were later split into battalions with a lieutenant colonel as a commanding officer and a major as an executive officer. Brigades headed by brigadier generals were the units invented as a tactical unit by the Swedish king Gustavus Adolphus II. It was introduced to overcome the normal army structure, consisting of regiments. The so-called "brigada" was a mixed unit, comprising infantry, cavalry and normally artillery, designated for a special task. The size of such brigada was a reinforced company up to two regiments. The brigada was a 17th-century form of the modern "task force". In some armies "brigadier general" has been shortened to "brigadier".

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Keido Kuruberg  
Estonia





# Do you know about Stockholm Syndrome?

*The word Stockholm reminds us of a famous capital city in Sweden. But this is an article on the city. But it reveals an important syndrome followed by an incident that occurred in the past.*

## **What is Stockholm syndrome?**

Stockholm Syndrome is a psychological response to being held captive, in which the victim develops positive feelings towards their captivity. In the past an individual was captured by robbers and with the time the captives showed gratitude towards the captors based on some sympathising act by them.

## **History of Stockholm syndrome?**

According to the American Psychological Association (APA) and associated Dictionary of Psychology, it came from the case of a woman who was held hostage in 1973 during a bank robbery in Stockholm, Sweden, and became so emotionally attached to one of the robbers that she broke her engagement to another man and remained

faithful to her former captor during his prison term. [a term coined by Swedish psychiatrist and criminologist Nils Bejerot (1921–1988)].

## **Stockholm syndrome and real life**

### **Marital life**

During marital life the stockholm syndrome can be identified in various events in life. For an example, abusive husband tortures his wife every day. But one day he treated her with love and gave her a diamond necklace. Since that date onwards he again continued to torture himself. But even its abusive, his wife still shares a strong bond with him considering the well-treated behaviour of that day.



## Sports

During sports, coaches are emotionally abusing their trainees to get the best outcome for them to achieve hard goals. In such times, the trainees sympathise with the effort of the coach to make them best by excusing his emotional abuses.

## Education

Ragging is another sort of abusive act that is found in many universities. As an example, during ragging, some have to go through physical and mental punishments from seniors. On a rare occasion, a set of seniors are drooping their juniors at hostels during ragging period. However, those juniors later sympathise and emotionally bonded with them.

## Sexual Abuses

There are some cases whereas a girl who is not having emotional or physical care from her family had affection for her rapist who continuously raped her but gives her some money and clothes. She emotionally bonded with the old man excusing this sexual abuse.

## International relations

As nations, we can see many countries working together in regional and international corporations. However, in diplomacy, Stockholm syndrome plays role in such scenarios i.e, where the United Nations count votes for sanctions against a country called X and Y also voted against X. But when COVID-19 affected Country Y volunteers gave some consignment of vaccines to Country X. Then Country X feels good about Country Y due to its simple act.

When considered the Stockholm syndrome, there are many occasions to explain. All of those situations are included in the stockholm syndromes patterns. Others are abided as a result of human beings.

## How to identify stockholm syndrome

Even though the Stockholm syndrome diagnosis criteria are not included in manuals, the following characteristics can be identified.

- Feels positive towards the captor,
- Assisting with the captor's actions and the rationale behind them
- The person who victimized praised and shared the values of the captor and wishes no escape
- Having good trust in the captor
- Feeling sorry towards the captors,
- Accepting that the captors are the sufferers themselves
- Having sentiments of needing to 'save' their abuser



- Have negative sentiments towards their companions or family, who may attempt to protect them
- Create negative sentiments towards the police, specialist figures, or anybody who could be trying to offer the assistance
- Deny coordinating against their captors, amid the consequent examination or legitimate trials

Meantime after being released from the captor individuals with Stockholm includes positive feelings toward captors and report denial, confusion, staying away from society, feeling guilt, anxiety, emptiness or hopelessness, lack of interest etc.

Individuals with Stockholm syndrome may often complain of signs similar to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), flashbacks, nightmares, unreality feelings, irritability, lack of concentration, etc.

## How can we help someone with Stockholm Syndrome

Listen without judgments – as the captive is considering everything that has happened to them, and attempting to prepare their encounters, listen and utilise reflection to appear your concern and consent.

Avoid polarisation- during the discussions, don't express any of the bad things you know about the captor. Then captive will try to correct it, and then they will not share real experiences with you.

Validate their truth – this must be handled with much care. The victims must validate the reality and explain what happened to them. Then real value of accepting as it is and its positive effects for all also must be explained systematically. Don't go for advice- especially in such situations; don't go to advise them for their cognitive changes. But if they're asking for advice, yes, of course you can assist them. But need to remind ourselves that cognitive developments and changes must be initiated on our own.



By Captain Nisal Rukshan SLR  
BSc (hons) Counseling Psychology  
Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment





# SPORT

FROM THE BATTLEGROUND TO THE PLAYGROUND





## Badminton Players Score Seven Categories



Army male and female badminton players grabbed the championship in all 7 categories at the Defence Services' Badminton tournament held between 29 May 2023 – 31 May 2023 at the Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF) indoor stadium in Colombo. Accordingly, Army players earned Championship and Runners-up in Open Single Men's, Open Double Men's, Open Single Women's, Open Double Women's, Age Category Over 30 years Men, Age Category Over 40 years Men and Age Category Over 50 years Men categories. Senior Officers of Tri-Services participated in the awarding ceremony.

## Army footballers become champions at DSG



The finale of football championship in the Defence Services Games - 2023 (Men's) was held amid the cheers of tri service football fans at the Race Course Stadium on 22 May 2023. During the event, Army footballers defeated the Navy and successfully defended their title although both teams played with intensity and enthusiasm. The Army's Corporal Mendis L C S K of Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps and Lance Corporal Rahuman M A A of Sri Lanka National Guard fuelled the victory of the Army during the match emerging Army football team as champions. Meanwhile, Sri Lanka Navy Women's Football team achieved the championship leaving the Runners-up trophy for Army Women's team.

## ARMY RUGBY PLAYERS WIN RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP



Army rugby players secured the Gold and Silver medals at the Rugby Championship at Defence Services Games which was held from 9 May to 23 May 2023 at the Sri Lanka Air Force ground in Ratmalana. All tri-services teams vied for the men's and women's championships but the Army Women's Rugby team in a thrilling tussle clinched the Gold Medal beating their rivals in the Navy. However, the Army Men's team after a close fight secured the Silver Medal scoring 27 - 20 points against Navy Men's team.



## Inter Regiment Wrestling Tournament - 2023



The Inter Regiment Wrestling Tournament - 2023 was held at Panagoda Army indoor stadium from 25 May 2023 to 28 May 2023 with the participation of 150 wrestlers, both men and women representing various regiments of the Sri Lanka Army.

In the men's category, the Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment won the championship pushing the Sri Lanka Engineers team to be the runner-up. In the novices' category, Sri Lanka Light Infantry Regiment team secured the championship and Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment team won the runner-up slot. In the women's category, Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps team won the championship pushing the Sri Lanka Engineers team to the runner-up.

Major General SA Kulathunga RWP RSP USP psc General Officer Commanding, 23 Infantry Division and Chairman of Army Wrestling Committee witnessed the final rounds and awarded certificates to the winners.

## 'MANGALA NISHANTHA' MEMORIAL ELLE TOURNAMENT



The 11th 'Mangala Nishantha' Memorial Elle Tournament, organised by Rathnagiriya Victory Sports Club at the Madampe Dummalasuriya Victory playground was held on 14 May 2023 with the participation of six teams, including the Sri Lanka Army Elle team. Although Sri Lanka Army Elle team, Baduragoda Eksath Sports Club Elle team, and Ganemulla Vasana Sports Club competed and Sri Lanka Army Elle team qualified for the finals through the draw. In the finals, the Army Elle team secured the 11th Mangala Nishantha Memorial Elle tournament scoring 10 runs from 30 balls.

## Army coaches trains Jaffna beach volleyball players



The picturesque Thalayadi beach in the Vadamarachchi (East) region in the Jaffna peninsula witnessed an exciting Beach Volleyball tournament for the first time on 14 May, following initiatives taken by the 55 Infantry Division after the sport was introduced to them with Army training sessions within a span of six months.

The Beach Volleyball training programme consisted of four distinct segments with the introduction of the sport to local schools and sports organizations, followed by training sessions conducted by Army Beach Volleyball coaches. An inter-school tournament was then held to identify talented players for participation in club tournaments with the objective of grooming young athletes in Jaffna to reach national-level competitions.

The tournament reached its climax on Thalayadi beach with two teams from Ampanand Aliyawalai making it to the finals out of 22 participating teams. The team from Ampan, Pingpong Sports Club emerged victorious after three rounds of intense play. The crowd was also treated to two exhibition matches between men's and women's beach volleyball teams of the Sri Lanka Army, adding excitement and thrill during the final tussle.

Major General D B S N Bothota RWP RSP VSV USP psc, Commander Security Forces Jaffna, graced the finals as the chief guest, together with a large gathering of local sports fans, civilians and military personnel, including the General Officers Commanding of 51, 52, 55, and 56 Infantry Divisions, the Deputy Commander of the Northern Naval Area, Senior DIG Jaffna, Commander Forward Maintenance Area in Jaffna, SSP Kilinochchi Division, Divisional Secretary Maruthankerny, Provincial Education Director North and other distinguished guests.

The event received support from well-wishers and donors who contributed to its final success.





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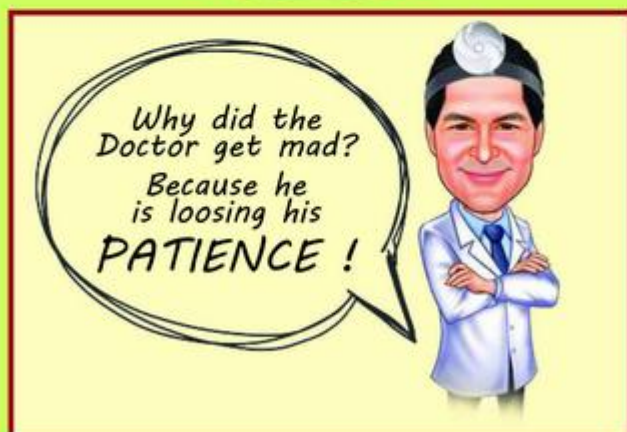
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# COMIC CORNER



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2	4	9	8	6	3	7	1	5
5	8	4	6	9	7	1	2	3
7	1	3	2	4	8	6	5	9
9	2	6	1	3	5	4	8	7
6	9	7	4	1	2	5	3	8
1	5	8	3	7	9	2	6	4
4	3	2	5	8	6	9	7	1

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## APPRECIATING A SELFLESS ACT...

*Highly appreciating and admiring swift act of Corporal Karunarathne K M B R K L of 4 Sri Lanka Light Infantry Regiment that saved more than 50 lives Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army awarded the Army Commander's Commendation Medal.*



*The Army soldier, Corporal K M B R K L Karunarathne who was on the bus promptly reacted, jumped on to the driver's seat, braked it to a halt and took control of the moving bus within seconds after the driver was plunged out from the bus while driving preventing a major catastrophe to be happened in Ududumbara, 18 Bend area Kandy-Mahiyangana-Padiyatalawa Highway.*





## TRACES ON THE SAND

Marks are erased no matter who walks on the sand automatically in time. But the marks of War Heroes are not erased as such soon as it imprinted in people's hearts. Their unlimited sacrifices made for this nation will never be forgotten no matter how long it had been as it carries many stories. Although all stories are different from each yet all have one in common; that how they saved our country by sacrificing their lives..