



BELLATOR

R A N A V I R U W A





GENERAL CONVOCATION OF GENERAL SIR JOHN KOTELAWALA DEFENCE UNIVERSITY 2023



General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University marked a crowning moment of achievement of its students of Intakes 34, 35, 36, and 37 on 04 October 2023 at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH). Accordingly, the undergraduates from different disciplines including Management, Engineering Technology, Science and Arts received their degrees.

1769 graduands from all faculties and affiliated military institutions were conferred with degrees. Among the degree holders, 02 received the Doctor of Philosophy degree and one received a Master of Philosophy degree and 103 received Master's degrees and 1490 received their Bachelor's degrees. In addition, 09 received Postgraduate Diplomas. His Excellency Ranil Wickremesinghe, the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, graced the final session of the convocation as the Chief Guest. Extending the best wishes for the

academic excellences of the graduates of the General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, His Excellency the President appreciated their achievements.

Honourable Sagala Rathnayaka the Chief of Staff to the President and National Security Advisor, Honourable Pramitha Bandara Thennakoon State Minister of Defence, General G D H Kamal Gunaratne (Retd) WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc MPhil the Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, General SHS Kottegoda (Rtd) WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndc Chancellor, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, General Shavendra Silva WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil Chief of Defence Staff, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army, Commanders of Navy and Air Force, Inspector General of Police and the family members of the graduates attended the convocation.

ARMY COMMANDER INSPECTS SOUTHERN EXPRESSWAY CLEARANCE WORK

Troops of 2 (V) Gemunu Watch of 61 Infantry Division promptly lent their tireless assistance to clear the earth mound that collapsed on the southern expressway near the 102km post between Imaduwa and Pinnaduwa interchanges on 11 October 2023 due to torrential rains.

In view of the magnitude of the earth slip, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army together with Honourable Premitha Bandara Tennakoon, State Minister of Defence visited the location and inspected and instructed the troops at work.



ARMY COMMANDER JOINS ON FLOOD RELIEF WORK IN MATARA

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army inspected humanitarian flood relief operations launched by troops for flood-affected areas in Matara District on 07 October 2023.

Major General R A J N Ranasinghe RSP USP ndc, General Officer Commanding, 61 Infantry Division presented a comprehensive brief on developments as regards floods in the Matara District to the Commander of the Army. Then the Commander of the Army, together with several other Senior Officers met the District Secretary Matara and further inspected the process of the humanitarian flood relief assistance. Also, Commander of the Army met Divisional Secretaries of Malimbada and Athtudawa divisions and checked the cookhouse maintained in the premises and observed the food delivery process for the flood affected victims of the area.

Major General W H K S Peiris RWP RSP VSV USP ndu, Commander of Security Forces (West), Major General R A J N Ranasinghe RSP USP ndc, General Officer Commanding of 61 Infantry Division, Colonel K A D N R Kannangara RSP IG, Brigade Commander of 613 Infantry Brigade and few other Senior Officers were also present at the premises.

After his visit to Malimbada area, the Army Commander reached Athtudawa bund area which has been fortified by troops placing sand bags to prevent any split in the bund as rising water levels have posed a threat.





SRI LANKA ARMY CELEBRATES ITS 74TH ANNIVERSARY

The Sri Lanka Army, the unmatched service provider plus the proud 'Defender of the Nation' which led a sustained crusade against ruthless terrorism and brought durable peace to the Nation after more than three decades of human suffering marked its 74th Anniversary on 10 October 2023 with grandeur at Panagoda Army Cantonment, Panagoda. Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army together with Mrs. Janaki Liyanage the President Army Seva Vanitha Unit graced the event as the Chief Guests adding dignity and prominence to the commemoration.

Major General M G W W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc, Director General General Staff, commanded the Army Day parade and Brigadier S P Malawarage RSP USP IG, was the Second in Command. 85 Officers and 650 Other Ranks representing all 25 Regiments coloured the squads offering honours to the Commander of the Army. Adding the significance to the event, Commander of the Army pinned the Commander's Commendation Badge on 43 selected Army personnel including Officers and Other Ranks who have made the organisation proud contributing their maximum. The laureates were distinct achievers in bravery, honesty, commitment towards the national emergencies.



Addressing the distinguished gathering the Commander of the Army paid tribute to all past Commanders, fallen and injured War Heroes, serving Officers, Other Ranks, civil servants and their families and urged All Ranks to continue their good work and commitment in future for the best interests of the country. In addition, he stressed that the Army will always be committed towards preserving the Constitution and the democratic process while ensuring the well-being of the citizenry. Commander of the Army further highlighted that Sri Lanka Army endeavours to be a role model in judicious resource management and will render its fullest support towards national efforts for economic revival.





BLESSINGS INVOKED FOR ARMY FLAGS AT KATARAGAMA

In line with the 74th Army Anniversary flag blessing ceremony was held at the sacred Kataragama Kirivehera and Devala compounds on 02 October 2023 with the participation of Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP

ndu, Commander of the Army. Officers and Other Ranks bearing the respective flags of the Army participated in the programme. At the same time, the Commander of the Army presented a financial contribution towards the development of the sacred place of historic value as a symbolic gesture of veneration on account of the anniversary.

In addition, the Army Commander marked the commencement of the second stage construction of partially-built 'Vihara Mandiraya' at the sacred Kirivehera premises by laying the first floor tile on the floor. Army troops extended their generous expertise for the construction.



SPECIAL MASS FOR THE 74TH ARMY ANNIVERSARY



A special Mass graced by His Eminence Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith, Bishop of Colombo and several other prominent clergies was held on 03 October 2023 at Borella All Saints' Church as a segment of the series of multi-religious observances to invoke the blessings on the 74th Army Anniversary of the Sri Lanka Army.

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army, together with Mrs Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit graced the event as the Chief Guests at the invitation of Major General W B S M Abeysekara RSP VSV USP, Chairman, Army Christian Fellowship. At the end of the special Mass, Commander of the Army, made a financial contribution to clergies as a token of appreciation of their religious services being rendered by the Church for promotion of spiritual values, reconciliation and peace among the public.





SPECIAL PRAYERS AT JUMMA MOSQUE FOR THE 74TH ARMY ANNIVERSARY



Another special prayer to invoke blessings for the 74th Army Anniversary was held at Colpetty Jumma Mosque with the representative gathering of Officers and Other Ranks of Islamic faith on 04 October 2023.



Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army graced the religious occasion as the Chief Guest at the invitation of Brigadier T M F Kitchilan RWP RSP, together with Lieutenant Colonel T M P Jalal, Secretary of Army Muslim Association.

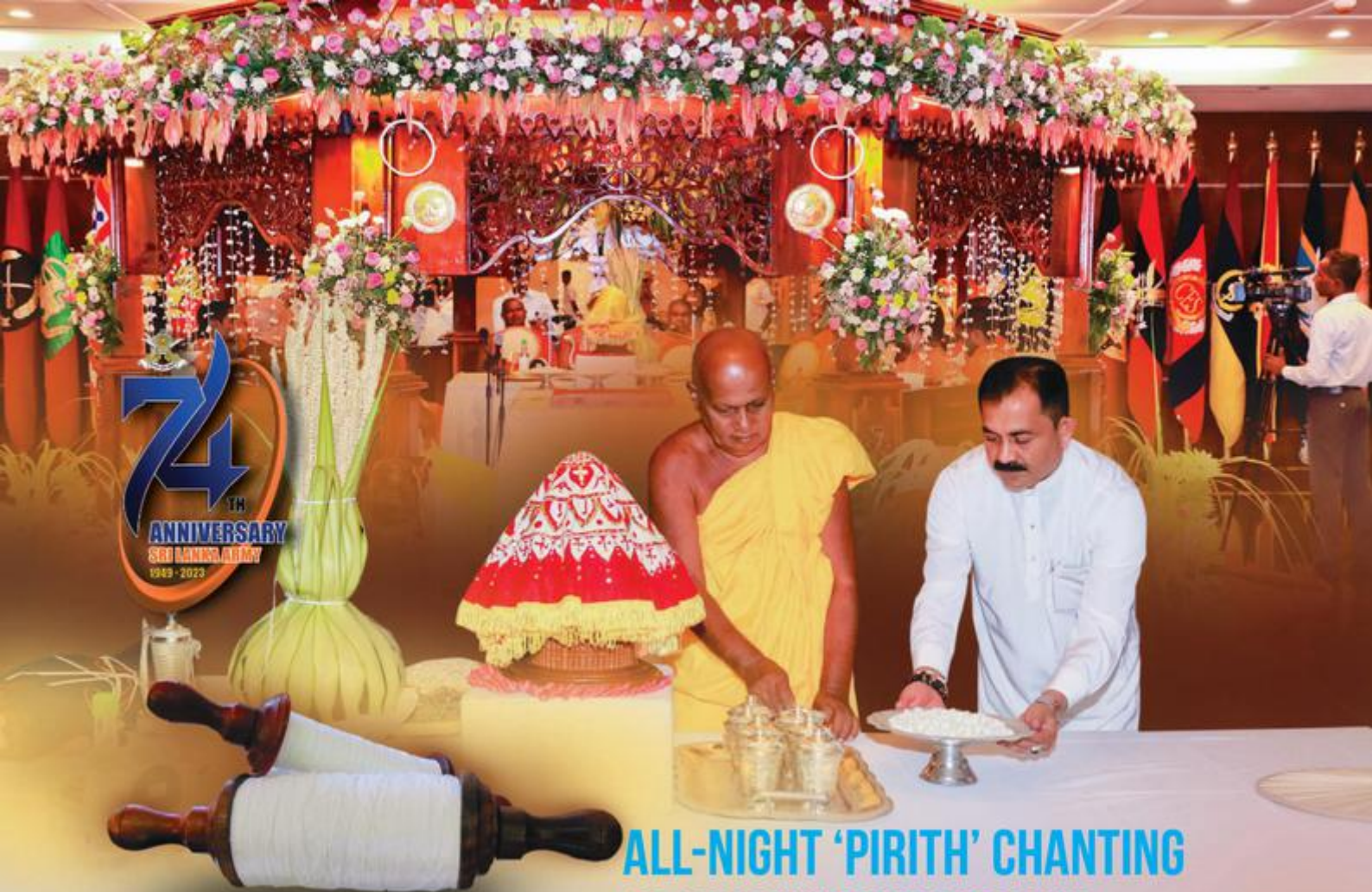
Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage, Commander of the Army after culmination of the special Islamic religious ceremony made a financial donation towards the development of the mosque premises and shared his views with Moulavis on co-existence, harmony and reconciliation. Officers and Other Ranks joined the prayer sessions.

HINDU 'ASHIRWADA' POOJA FOR 74TH ARMY ANNIVERSARY



A special 'Aashirwada' Pooja (blessing ceremony) of Hindu tradition, was held on 5 October 2023 at Mayurapathi Sri Bhadrakali Amman Kovil, Colombo 5, to extend its blessings on the 74th Anniversary of the Sri Lanka Army.

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army, graced the event as the Chief Guest at the invitation of Brigadier K M P S B Kulathunga RSP ndc psc, Chairman of the Army Hindu Association. During the occasion the noble blessings of the special 'Aashirwada' Pooja invoked for the Army Flags amidst religious rites and rituals. At the end of the Hindu blessing ceremony, Commander of the Army, respectfully made a cash gift to the Chairman of the Kovil Mr. Periyasami Sundaralingam for its development work on behalf of all serving the organisation.



ALL-NIGHT 'PIRITH' CHANTING FOR ARMY ANNIVERSARY AT SRI LANKA ARMY HEADQUARTERS

All-night 'Pirith' chanting, organised in line with the 74th Army Day was held at the Sri Jayawardenepura Army Headquarters complex on 05 October 2023. The all night Pirith Chanting was held as the final segment of a series of multi religious arrangements organised to invoke spiritual blessings on the Sri Lanka Army.

Several Buddhist monks, including the Maha Nayaka Thero of Kotte Sri Kalyani Samagri Dharma Maha Sangha Sabha, Venerable Dr Iththapaana Dhammalankara Nayaka Thero, Chief Incumbent at Dhamma Wijayaloka Viharaya, Rukmale and Chancellor of Sri Jayawardenepura University, together with Venerable Dr Aluthnuwara Anurudhdha Thero, Chief Incumbent at Kotte Raja Maha Viharaya, Venerable Uduwe Dhammaloka Thero, Incumbent, Allen Methiniyaramaya participated in the customary all-night 'Pirith' chanting.

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army graced the occasion at the invitation of Major General U D Wijesekera RWP RSP USP rcds psc, Commander, Security Forces (West) and the Chairman of the Buddhist Association, Sri Lanka Army together with Mrs Janaki Liyanage, President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit. A host of representative Officers and Other Ranks also joined the religious event.





UNPARALLELED SACRIFICES OF FALLEN WAR HEROES COMMEMORATED

In line with the 74th Anniversary of the Sri Lanka Army, a solemn, yet dignified commemorative ceremony was held on 06 October 2023 at Battaramulla War Heroes' Monument (Ranaviru Smarayakaya) in order to pay tribute for the invaluable sacrifices of War Heroes.

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army graced the event as the Chief Guest for this formal commemorative event adding the prominence to the occasion as the head of the Sri Lanka Army on the eve of its 74th Army Anniversary Day (10 October 2023).

This outstanding tribute, and a prominent gesture of gratitude to immortalise cherished memories of fallen War Heroes was held by the Army, to remember all fallen War Heroes who mutinously contributed for the successful eradication of terrorism 14 years ago. It equally symbolised the deep-rooted respect of the Sri Lanka Army towards the unmatched gallantry of thousands of fallen War Heroes who sacrificed their precious lives in order to restore peace and harmony in the country.





EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FOR ARMY FAMILIES FROM ARMY SEVA VANITHA UNIT

Coincident with the 74th Army Anniversary, Army Seva Vanitha Unit initiated massive welfare project to provide the educational assistance to students of Army families on 11 October 2023.



Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army graced the event as the Chief Guest at the invitation of Mrs Janaki Liyanage, President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit. Accordingly, 122 gift packs containing school equipment and educational accessories were distributed among the students in a simple ceremony under this project. In addition, selected beneficiaries received Children's Savings account from Bank of Ceylon at the same occasion.



Meanwhile, Mrs. Thushari Wanigasekara the Chairperson of the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch received a dividend cheque in lieu of their projects and two yoghurt sealers as incentives.



Additionally, a generous cash donation of Rs 200,000.00 was also presented to a Sergeant Major of the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps in support of his construction of a sanitary facility, needed very much for his child with special needs.

Deputy Chief of Staff, Master General Ordnance, Quarter Master General, Military Secretary, Several Senior Officers, Chairpersons of Regimental Seva Vanitha Branches, Senior members of Army Seva Vanitha Unit, Officers, ASVU Staff and Other Ranks attended the distribution ceremony.



SYMBOLS OF AUTHORITY PRESENTED TO NE MAJOR GENERALS

Coincident with the 74th Army Anniversary day, newly promoted seven Major Generals of the Army, received the symbols of authority and greetings from Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army at the Commander's Office on 09 October 2023.

Major General R Elvitigala USP, Major General I H M R K Herath USP ndc psc, Major General W M P M Wijesooriya RWP RSP ndu, Major General W P Kariyawasam, Major General K M P S B Kulatunga RSP ndc psc and Major General H H K S S Hewage RWP RSP USP rods psc, accordingly received their symbols of authority while assuring to ensure more committed and dedicated roles and perform better in the years to come for the best interest of the country's security and prosperity.



Major General D A Amarasekara USP, Commander, Forward Maintenance Area (Mullaivivu) who was promoted to the rank of Major General on account of the 74th Army Anniversary received the symbolic sword of authority on 10 October 2023 from Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army.



Major General K H M S Wickramaratne RSP and Major General W M S C K Wanasinghe RSP USP, Director General of Directorate of Welfare received their symbolic swords of authority from Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army on 16 October 2023.



COMMANDER OF THE ARMY APPRECIATES THE 'ASIAN GAMES' WINNERS

Extending the best wishes, and warm greetings for the achievers in the '19th Asian Games' in Hangzhou, China, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army appreciated the group of achievers promoting them to the next ranks at the Army Headquarters on 11 October 2023.

6 Army athletes and 4 Army cricketers out of the 12 member team won medals in Javelin Throw, 400 m x 4 Relay (Men's and Women's) and Sri Lankan Women's Cricket team in the 'Asian Games' were able to mark the victory at their fields bringing reputation to the Sri Lanka Army and the country. Brigadier P A M Peiris RSP USP psc Director, Sports also joined the felicitation ceremony.





'INTER REGIMENT SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP-2023'

The awarding ceremony of the 'Inter Regiment Sports Championship - 2023', was held at Panagoda Army indoor stadium on 26 October 2023, under the patronage of Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army.

In 2023, a multitude of 40 inter-regiment sports events took place at different regimental locations across the country in order to pick the best of the best sportsmen and women. These sport championships were organised to enhance the athletic abilities of Army sportsmen and sportswomen, aiming to nurture talented individuals who can represent Sri Lanka in national and international competitions, ultimately enabling them to secure victories at international levels.

Brigadier P A M Peiris RSP USP psc, Director, Directorate of Sports warmly welcomed the Commander of the Army for the awarding ceremony of the 'Inter Regiment Sports Championship - 2023'. Also, the Commander of the Army then joined to launch an Army Sport E-Album which was produced by the Directorate of Sports, together with the Directorate of Media and Directorate of Information Technology.

In addition, the Commander of the Army distributed the cash incentives for sportsmen and sportswomen who brought home international achievements during the recent '19th Asian Games' in Hangzhou, China. Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks of the Army also joined the awarding ceremony.



COMMANDER OF THE SRI LANKA ARMY, GRACES PMA PASSING OUT PARADE



Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army graced the Passing Out Parade of the Pakistan Military Academy (PMA), Kakul, Pakistan on 21 October 2023 as the Guest of Honour at the invitation of Major General Iftikhar Hassan Chaudhary, Commandant, Pakistan Military Academy.

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage, Commander of the Army and General Asim Munir Pakistan Chief of the Army Staff, are parallels in the same academy. Commander of the Army also honoured by graduating Cadets presenting a salute.



Two Cadets of the Sri Lanka Army, who received training in the Pakistan Military Academy, were also present at the Passing Out Parade. The Army Commander also took time off to interact with two Sri Lankan Cadets and foreign Cadets after their graduation. In another rare gesture, the son of Major General D P Welagedara RSP VSV USP psc IG, was among the Sri Lankan Cadets who passed out. Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President, Sri Lanka Army Seva Vanitha Unit and Major General D.P Welagedara RSP VSV USP psc IG, Military Liaison Officer (MLO) were also associated with the occasion.



ARMY COMMANDER COMMENDS PAKISTAN ARMY'S CONTRIBUTION TO REGION

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army met General Asim Munir NI (M) Chief of Army Staff (COAS) of Pakistan, during his visit at General Headquarters on 20 October 2023. At the same event, Commander of the Army was also invited to participate in the Passing Out Parade on following day.



During the cordial meeting between both Army Chiefs, matters of professional relevance and interest as well as possibilities for further enhancing bilateral defence ties were taken up for discussion. The Commander of the Army highly appreciated the Pakistan Army for its professionalism and contribution at regional level for peace and security. The Pakistan Army Chief highlighted friendly and historic ties and bonds of cooperation and understanding that Sri Lanka enjoys with Pakistan and its Armed Forces, particularly in the fields of defence and training of armed forces. They also touched on possibilities for further enhancement of ongoing exchange programmes as well as specific training modules.

GENERAL LIONEL BALAGALLE (RTD), FORMER ARMY COMMANDER BADE FAREWELL TO THE NATION



The funeral procession of General L P Balagalle (Rtd) RWP RSP VSV USP ndc IG the 16th Commander of the Sri Lanka Army was held at the Borella General Cemetery on 28 October 2023 amidst the military honours. Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army also joined to pay his last tribute for General L P Balagalle (Rtd) RWP RSP VSV USP ndc IG the 16th Commander of the Sri Lanka Army.

During the visit Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army presented the bereaved family with decorations and medals of General L P Balagalle (Rtd) RWP RSP VSV USP ndc IG had earned during his illustrious career, a general tradition in the armed forces. Displaying a high degree of professionalism and utmost commitment in discharging duties and responsibilities entrusted to him, General Balagalle during his noteworthy career of more than 39 years, and particularly during his office as Commander of the Army (2000-2004) left a milestone in the annals of Army history. He also had the rare privilege of concurrently holding the office of Chief of Defence Staff while being the Commander of the Army for a short period as the fight against division of the country was entering a crucial phase. A large gathering of mourners, including next of kin, military veterans, Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, former Army Commanders, contemporary senior Officers, serving and retired senior military Officers, batch mates and their spouses visited to pay the last tribute for General L P Balagalle (Rtd) RWP RSP VSV USP ndc IG the 16th Commander of the Sri Lanka Army.

COURTESY CALLS OF FOREIGN DELEGATIONS



Colonel Basil Mwambingu Mwakale, Defence Attaché of the High Commission of Kenya in New Delhi, India, accredited also to Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Bangladesh paid a courtesy call on Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army on 17 October 2023 during a visit to Sri Lanka.

Captain Gerald Koch, Defence Attaché together with Lieutenant Colonel André Niedhoefer, Deputy Defence Attaché of German Embassy in New Delhi, India, accredited also to Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh, during a visit to Sri Lanka paid a courtesy call on Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army at the Army Headquarters on 16 October 2023.



Ms Miyon Lee, HE the Ambassador of Korea showing her goodwill towards the Sri Lanka Army paid a courtesy call on Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army on 06 October 2023 at the Army Headquarters.

The outgoing Defence Advisor at the High Commission of India in Colombo, Captain Vikas Sood extended his courtesies to the Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army at the Army Headquarters before his return to India after completion of his tenure in Sri Lanka (2020 - 2023) on 16 October 2023.



The newly-appointed Director General of Civil Security Department (CSD), Air Vice Marshal R S Biyanwila VSV USP MBA (UK) ndc (Ind) psc, paid a courtesy call on Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army on 17 October 2023 at the Army Headquarters.

KETERIANS MARK THEIR 40TH ANNIVERSARY DAY



The Gajaba Regiment (GR) one of the most prestigious and battle-hardened entities of the Sri Lanka Army marked its 40th anniversary on 14 October 2023 with unmatched bravery and heroism in dignified and solemn ceremony.

The first Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Vijaya Wimalaratne giving leadership consolidated the founding of the Regiment in 1983 and accordingly the 40th anniversary of the Gajaba Regiment (GR) was held at Gajaba Regiment Regimental Centre, Saliyapura amidst the military honours. Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and paid his tribute to the Founding Father, late Major General Vijaya Wimalaratne placing a floral wreath at his statue.

Colonel K R Kalupahana RSP USP, Deputy Centre Commandant, warmly welcomed Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army for the anniversary celebrations and saluted the Commander of the Army with an elegantly-dressed parade, composed of 19 Officers and 427 Other Ranks of all Gajaba Regiment battalions along with proudly paraded Presidential and Regimental colour squads.

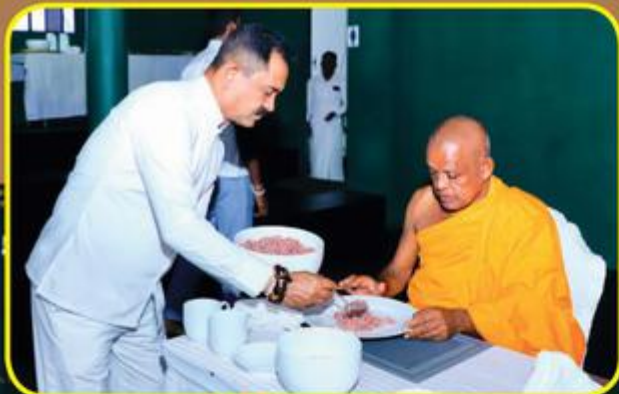
At the end of the parade, the Army Commander, greatly appreciated the unwavering commitment of the of Gajaba Regiment's forefathers and members to the motherland while paying his highest respect to the sacrifices of fallen War Heroes and wishing speedy recovery to wounded who are under recuperation. Marking the culmination of the 40th anniversary of the Gajaba Regiment, Commander of the Army joined the Regimental Day lunch for All Ranks and then after inaugurated its newly-built 6 storied holiday bungalow complex, 'King Keterian; the Legacy Suite' at the Gaajba Regimental Centre, Saliyapura.



ALL NIGHT 'PIRITH' CHANTING FOR THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF GAJABA REGIMENT

The all-night 'Pirith' chanting and alms giving was held coincided with the 40th anniversary commemoration of the Gajaba Regiment at the 'Home of Keterians' at Saliyapura, Anuradhapura on 12 October to 14 October 2023. Madam Manel Mangalika Wimalaratne, spouse of the founding father of Gajaba Regiment, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army, Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit, family members of fallen and injured Gajaba Regiment's War Heroes, veterans, Senior Officers, Other Ranks and a representative gathering of invitees participated in the event. Venerable members of the Maha Sangha during the all-night 'Pirith' chanting invoked the noble blessings on all fallen and wounded War Heroes and the Regiment. A large gathering of Senior Officers including Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army, Security Force Commanders, General Officers Commanding, Brigade Commanders, Gajaba Regiment Centre Commandant, Officers and Other Ranks participated in the 'Pirith' chanting ceremony.

Gajaba Regiment which has actively contributed to all major military operations conducted against separatist terrorism since its birth until the culmination of the humanitarian operations in May 2009 has selflessly sacrificed for the defence of the country. 171 Officers and 4068 Other Ranks of the Gajaba Regiment had made the supreme sacrifice while 307 Officers and 5646 Other Ranks sustained permanent injuries in order to make a better tomorrow for the Nation.





FALLEN GAJABA REGIMENT WAR HEROES REVERED

In line with the anniversary commemoration of the Gajaba Regiment, valour and gallantry of fallen War Heroes of Gajaba Regiment who made the supreme sacrifices for the defence of the country, were fondly recalled and revered at the War Heroes memorial at the Regimental Centre, Gajaba Regiment, Saliyapura on 13 October 2023.

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu Commander of the Army and Colonel Commandant of Gajaba Regiment graced the anniversary celebrations together with veterans, family members of fallen and wounded War Heroes, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks.

Group of white-clad sons and daughters of fallen War Heroes of Gajaba Regiment, accompanied by their mother or next of kin paced up with precise restraint and rapt attention, to honour their beloved departed was a magnificent spectacle. 171 Officers and 4068 Other Ranks of the Gajaba Regiment had sacrificed their lives for defence of the motherland.





40TH ANNIVERSARY OF GAJABA REGIMENT

The Sri Lanka Army has demonstrated an unquestionably unlimited service by its valiant troops in eradicating a 30-year-long terrorism, bringing smiles and hope for future prosperity. Their incomparable efforts not only ended the terrible war but also played a noteworthy role in the nation's post-war reconstruction. Over 74 years, the Sri Lanka Army has been dedicated to the nation's well-being and the assurance of its sovereignty.

At present, the Sri Lanka Army comprises 25 regiments, with the Gajaba Regiment standing out as one of the most significant. This regiment recently celebrated its 40th Anniversary on 14 October 2023. Its significance lies in gifting numerous valiant warriors to the nation, including former President His Excellency Gotabaya Rajapaksa, General Kamal Gunaratne (Rtd), present Chief of Defence Staff General Shavendra Silva, and the current Army Commander, Lieutenant General Vikum Liyanage.

The Gajaba Regiment holds a special place within the Sri Lanka Army due to the notable individuals it has produced. Many outstanding leaders, including the mentioned figures, have emerged from this regiment,

contributing significantly to the nation's history and its armed forces.

The Gajaba regiment is the combination of 1st Battalion of the Rajarata Rifles and the 1st Battalion of Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment in 1983. Naming the new infantry regiment as "Gajaba Regiment" is interesting to note. By then, it had already been established in Anuradhapura, the home for many warrior kings find in the Sri Lankan history. The New Regiment on the other hand was also a warrior unit in design and so required a name that could depict heroic posture, valour and courage to suit the officers and soldiers in the unit and groom them in the same manner.



General G D H Kamal Gunaratne
(Rtd) WWV RWP RSP USP ndc
psc MPhil
Secretary, Ministry of Defence



General Shavendra Silva
WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndc
psc MPhil
Chief of Defence Staff



Lieutenant General
H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu
Commander of the
Sri Lanka Army

The name of heroic king "Gajabahu" was the first to propose and it was acknowledged. "GAJABA" means strong arms of elephants in Sinhalese literature. on 14 October 1983 1st Battalion of the Gajaba Regiment was commissioned as a giant to the Sri Lanka Army, marking a special occasion in the history of the Gajaba Regiment. Major General Vijaya Wimalaratne is honoured as the founder father of Gajaba Regiment and he as a Lieutenant Colonel was enabled to create a proud milestone in the annals of the Gajaba Regiment history becoming the 1st commanding Officer of this infantry battalion.

The 2nd Volunteer Battalion of Gajaba Regiment was designed adjoining 2nd Volunteer Battalion of the Rajarata Rifles and 3rd Battalion of the Rajarata Rifles on 14 October 1983 at Fort Fredrick in Trincomalee. Although Gajaba Regiment was formed as a battalion, there was a requirement of an emblem and motto to describe the significance of the Gajaba Regiment.

Lieutenant Colonel Vijaya Wimalaratne accordingly proposed the new motto for the regiment as "Unity is the strength" or "Samagiya Shakthiyai" as the motto of the Gajaba Regiment. According to a concept of its 1st Commanding Officer, a new cap badge which includes artistic images of two hatchets crossed each other in the center shielded in medical horns of King Gajaba was designed. It was ceremonially awarded to officers and men in a colourful ceremony held at Saliyapura camp on 13 March 1984. During the mid of 1984, Gajaba Regiment deployed in Palali in Jaffna and in Kilinochchi.

Although Gajaba Regiment served in the Jaffna and Kilinochchi, as a single battalion, it had to deploy two battalions when handing over the area covered by 1 Gajaba Regiment. Accordingly, 1 Gajaba Regiment entered into the history as the single battalion which

undertook the Jaffna.

In 13 February 1985, valorous troops of Gajaba Regiment was successfully condoned the enemy attack leveled at them. This was the first incident that the Sri Lanka Army identified that the terrorist had used the RPG heavy weapons during the attacks.

The leadership of Lieutenant R P P S Wijesinghe Second-in-Command at the time was highly appreciated. His exceptional heroism, bravery and leadership exhibited at the face of the adversary was appreciated promoting him from the rank of Lieutenant to Captain awarding Rana Sura Padakkama. Captain R P P S Wijesinghe RSP was the first officer who earned such field promotion as a member of the Sri Lanka Army.

On 20 July 1985, 300 troops of Gajaba Regiment received a special training on small group operations at the Saliyapura Camp on the use of new war strategies and they further also gained the training on counter terrorism from the Combat Training School, at Maduruoya to control the enemy activities. Those trainees were deployed in the special operations. The Gajaba Regiment which was produced based on the versatility of Lieutenant Colonel Wijaya Wimalaratne had lend a considerable service at Trincomalee, Kilinochchi and Vavuniya leaving an unforgettable lesson to the enemy.

1st Battalion and 3rd Battalion of the Gajaba Regiment had contributed to eliminate the terrorism in the year 1987 with the Operation Vadamarachchi and was able to bring the morale of the government troops marking the victory for the government forces. Colonel Vijaya Wimalaratne as the Commanding Officer commanded the troops for the first time during the period.

In addition, a contingent of 35 Officers and 23 Other Ranks from the Gajaba Regiment participated in United Nations Peacekeeping missions. Another group departed from the island for UN missions between 5 July 2006, and 19 December 2006. Also, the regiment was honored with the President's colors by then-President Mahinda Rajapakse on 16 January 2007, at the Parade Ground Army Headquarters.

The Gajaba Regiment played a pivotal role in various operations, including Operation Vadamarachchi, Trivida Balaya, Akunu Pahara, Jaya Sikuru, Sath Jaya, Rivi Rasa, and East Humanitarian Operations. As a result of their valor, the regiment earned 4 Parama Veera Vibhushanaya, 3 Veerodara Vibhushanaya Padakkama, 65 Veera Vikrama Vibhushanaya, 774 Rana Vickramaya, 3829 Ranasura medals, 12 Vishishsta Seva Padakkama, and 682 Uththama Seva Padakkama.

At the end of the Operation Vadamarachchi, troops of the Gajab Regiment organised an exhibition to showcase the captured terrorist weapons and ammunition at public ground, Anuradhapura. The troops were warmly welcomed by the villagers of the area putting the garlands for providing them the security for their villages.

In 1990, following the collapse of peace negotiations, terrorists besieged the 1st Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment. Operation Trivida Balaya, involving the 1st, 4th, and 6th battalions, successfully rescued them from the attack. Brigadier Vijaya Wimalaratne, the founding father and Colonel Commandant of the Gajaba Regiment, and then Commander of the 21 Infantry Division, made the ultimate sacrifice for the nation at Arali Point on 08 August 1992 closing the grate chapter of the Gajaba Regiment as well as the Sri Lanka History. His loss remains one of the saddest moments in the history of the Gajaba Regiment.

The Gajaba Regiment was involved in various operations, such as Operation Rivirasa and Operation Jayasikuru in early March 1997. These operations led to victories in Puliyanakulam, Kanagarayanakulam, and Mankulam.

In addition, a contingent of 35 Officers and 23 Other Ranks from the Gajaba Regiment participated in United Nations Peacekeeping missions. Another group departed from the island for UN missions between 5 July 2006, and 19 December 2006. Also, the regiment was honored with the President's colors by then-President Mahinda Rajapakse on 16 January 2007, at the Parade Ground Army Headquarters.

The Gajaba Regiment played a pivotal role in various operations, including Operation Vadamarachchi, Trivida Balaya, Akunu Pahara, Jaya Sikuru, Sath Jaya, Rivi Rasa, and East Humanitarian Operations. As a result of their valor, the regiment earned 4 Parama Veera Vibhushanaya, 3 Veerodara Vibhushanaya Padakkama, 65 Veera Vikrama Vibhushanaya, 774 Rana Vickramaya, 3829 Ranasura medals, 12 Vishishsta Seva Padakkama, and 682 Uththama Seva Padakkama.

Among the brave soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the nation, 171 Officers and 4068 Other Ranks of the Gajaba Regiment laid down their lives for the country's sovereignty from 1983 to 2009. Additionally, 307 officers and 5646 Other Ranks were injured in the line of duty. Their sacrifices and bravery remain unforgettable.



*Lieutenant Dilanka Gunathilaka
Directorate of Media*

WAR MEMORIAL OF CAPTAIN SALIYA ALADENIYA DECLARED OPEN



Major General D M K D B Pussella RWP RSP, Commandant, Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force unveiled newly set up memorial of late Captain Saliya Aladeniya PWV of the 3 (Volunteer) Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment inside the Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force (SLAVF) Headquarters at Kosgama at the invitation of Major General M T K R Silva KSP, Deputy Commandant, Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force on 4 October 2023.

Captain Saliya Aladeniya is the first recipient of 'Parama Weera Vibhushanaya' (PWV) in the war history of the Sri Lanka Army, considered as the highest gallantry medal awarded posthumously in appreciation of the soldier's supreme sacrifice.



Addressing the historic event, the Commandant spelt out the the supreme sacrifice of Captain Saliya Aladeniya and his other subordinates who laid their lives without surrendering to the ferocious foes at Kokavil. The Commandant expressed his solemn respect and gratitude to the beloved mother, Mrs. Indrani Aladeniya who gave birth to a valiant warrior and the then Commanding Officer- Brigadier Abaya Weerakoon (Retd) KSV who joined the ceremony via zoom.

DCOS VISITS 'RANAVIRU SEVANA' - RAGAMA



Major General C D Ranasinghe RWP RSP, Deputy Chief of Staff (DCOS) of the Army in parallel with the 74th Army Anniversary visited 'Ranaviru Sevana' (wellness resort) in Ragama and shared views with resident War Heroes on 27 September 2023.

COMMANDER SECURITY FORCES (JAFFNA) GIFTED 771ST HOUSE FOR THE BENEFICIARY



A new house was constructed for a deserving family in Urumpirayi area in Jaffna as a result of meticulous efforts of Commander and troops of Security Forces (Jaffna) with the generous financial assistance from Imagine Compassion International Ltd - Australia (INGO). The new house was accordingly numbered as the 771st house installed by the troops of Security Forces (Jaffna) for the poverty – stricken civilians of the area.

Major General S R K Hettiarachchi RWP RSP VSV USP ndu psc, Commander, Security Forces Headquarters (Jaffna), Major General Y A B M Yahampath RWP RSP ndu psc, General Officer Commanding, 52 Infantry Division, troops, Senior Officers of Sri Lanka Army, representatives of INGO and the beneficiary of the house attended the event.

ASSISTANT DEFENCE ADVISOR TO THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA AT SFHQ (JAFFNA)



Lieutenant Colonel Puneet Sushil, Assistant Defence Advisor to the High Commission of India paid a courtesy visit to Security Forces Headquarters (Jaffna) on 26 September 2023 and met Major General S R K Hettiarachchi RWP RSP VSV USP ndu Commander Security Forces (Jaffna) and engaged in a discussion.

Afterwards, Lieutenant Colonel Puneet Sushil paid tribute to the memory of fallen Indian Peacekeeping Force (IPKF) War Heroes placing floral wreaths at the Indian Peacekeeping Force (IPKF) Monument during the brief and solemn ceremony.

VIRU GEE NADA 2023 – “TRIBUTE TO PARENTS”

A musical show named “VIRU GEE NADA - 2023” was organised by Psychological Operations Cell of Security Force Headquarters (Wanni) on 15 October 2023 under the guidance of Major General



W P A D W Nanayakkara RSP VSV USP ndu Commander Security Forces (Wanni), at the auditorium of the Security Force Headquarters (Wanni). The musical programme was implemented with the intention to heal the monotonous mind of the soldiers on duty at the Security Forces (Wanni) area. The beat group of Sri Lanka Army Rifle Corps, provided the music for the musical show. The event was mainly focused to tribute the parents singing the songs for portraying every milestone of new born, and the love of parents.



DONATIONS FOR LOW INCOME FAMILIES IN BATTICALOA DISTRICT



As a step to become a strength for poverty- stricken community in the Batticaloa District, 50 packs of dry ration each worth Rs.7600.00 were distributed among 50 low-income families, living in the Iralkulam area of Batticaloa district. Accordingly, school accessory sets worth Rs. 200,000.00 were also distributed among 41 children studying at Government Mixed School, Iralkulam, and 17 children studying at Kannagi School, Periyawadduwan. The programme was conducted on 23 September 2023 at the Government Mixed School, Iralkulam. Major General K V N P Premaratne RSP USP psc, General Officer Commanding, 23 Infantry Division graced the programme as the Chief Guest.

COMMANDER, SECURITY FORCES (EAST) PARTICIPATES FOR OPENING ADDRESS OF BATTALION TRAINING



The 4th Battalion Gemunu Watch started battalion training at the Battalion Training School – Punani on 18 September 2023 and Major General M K U P Gunaratne RSP ndu psc IG Commander, Security Forces (East), participated as the Chief Guest on the occasion and delivered the opening address. During his opening address, Commander Security Forces (East) highlighted the worth of this training as a soldier to the troops and congratulated all the candidates.



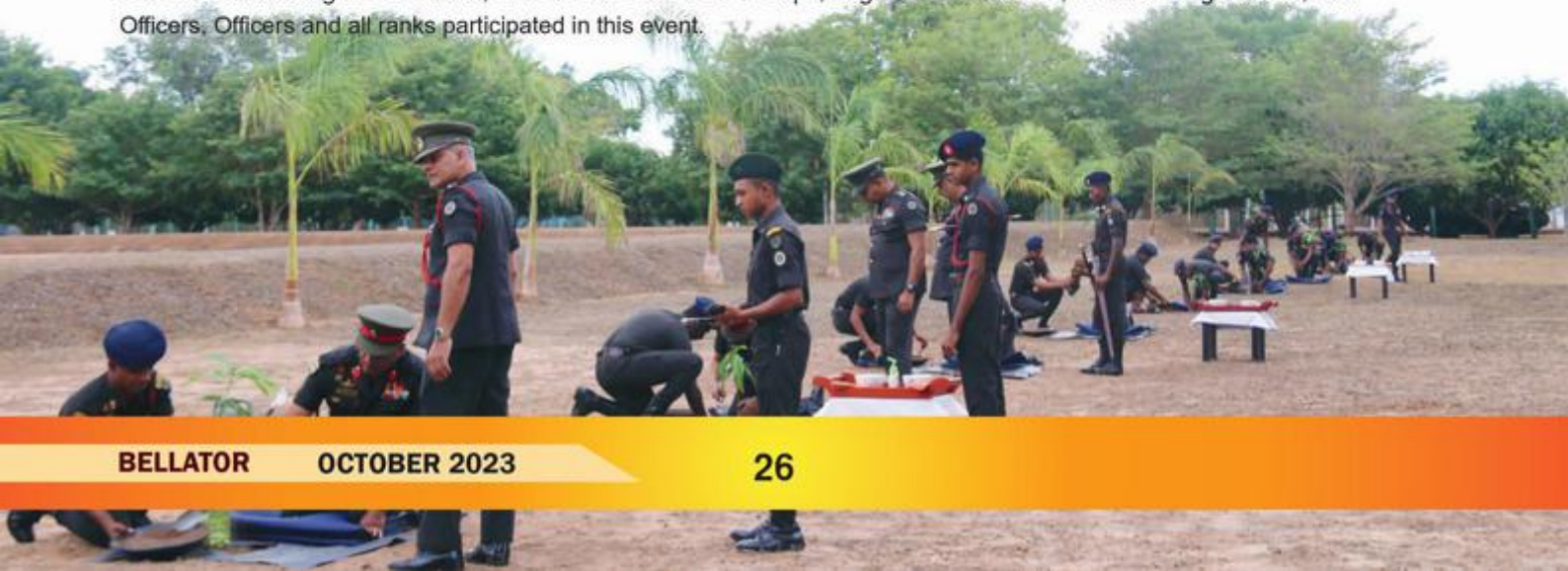
Under the careful supervision of the General Officer Commanding, 23 Infantry Division, this collective training will be conducted over 45 working days from 18 September 2023 to 06 November 2023 with the participation of 4th Battalion Gemunu Watch Officers and Other Ranks.

Major General K V N P Premaratne RSP USP psc General Officer Commanding 23 Infantry Division, Lieutenant Colonel E D T P E Bandara Chief Instructor, Battalion Training School – Punani, with Instructors, Staff Officers of Security Forces Headquarters (East), Commanding Officer of 4th Battalion Gemunu Watch with troops were present at the opening address.

1 CORPS PROUDLY CELEBRATES 74TH ANNIVERSARY OF SRI LANKA ARMY



In line with the 74th anniversary of Sri Lanka Army, 1 Corps organised an anniversary event at the 1 Corps premises on 10 October 2023 under the supervision and guidance of Major General S B Amunugama RWP RSP ndu Commander, 1 Corps. A series of programmes including flag raising, sapling plantation and all rank lunch was held in line with the anniversary events with the participation of troops of 1 Corps. Major General H D W K N Eriyagama RWP RSP, General Officer Commanding of 58 Division, Senior Staff Officers of 1 Corps, Brigade Commanders, Commanding Officers, Staff Officers, Officers and all ranks participated in this event.





NAVAL STAFF COURSE ATTENDEES VISIT MULLAITIVU

Army, Navy and Air Force Student Officers following the Junior Naval Staff Course - 38 at Naval & Maritime Academy, Trincomalee made a familiarisation tour to Mullaitivu area and called at the Security Force Headquarters (Mullaitivu) on 23 September 2023.

Lieutenant Colonel T D M D S Meegolla General Staff Officer-I (Ops) at the Security Force Headquarters (Mullaitivu), presented an account of the role and tasks to the visitors and Major General M K Jayawardena RSP VSV USP ndu Commander, Security Forces (Mullaitivu) also joined the event. Next, they visited the 68 Infantry Division area and Puthukkudiyiruppu to witness the Victory Monument and the LTTE's old submarine yard. Major General S Kasthurimudali RSP ndc psc General Officer Commanding 68 Infantry Division also joined the programme.



NEW HOUSE FOR POVERTY- STRICKEN FAMILY IN MULLATIVU



Troops of 643 Infantry Brigade together with 8 Sri Lanka Artillery (SLA) troops built a house for a deserving family with two disabled children in Jeewanagar in Muthiyandakulam at the request of Brigadier C D Wickramanayaka WWV RSP Commander, 643 Infantry Brigade. Furniture for the house was also gifted at the same occasion.



The newly built house was vested for the beneficiary on 13 October 2023 during a simple ceremony in the presence of Major General M K Jayawardena RSP VSV USP ndu, Commander, Security Forces (Mullaitivu) who graced the event as the Chief Guest.

General Officer Commanding of 64 Infantry Division, 641, 642 and 643 Brigade Commanders, Senior Officers, Officers, representatives of the donors including Major T S Bohoran (Rtd), and Other Ranks were present during the occasion.

SECURITY FORCE HEADQUARTERS (CENTRAL) CELEBRATES WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY

In celebration of the World Children's Day, Security Force Headquarters (Central) organised a facilitation programme to share the joy and happiness with the school children of Kadurugamuwa Mihindu Vidyalaya, Diyatalawa on 03 October 2023. During the celebrations, a delicious lunch was also provided for the students and teachers of the school. An art competition was also held at the premises of the Army Golf Club and Polo Ground in Diyatalawa. Colonel W A J Hemachandra RSP psc Colonel GSO I Security Force Headquarters (Central) conducted a leadership workshop. The programme was held upon the sheer guidance of Major General W W H R R V M N D K B Niyangoda RWP RSP VSV USP ndu psc, Commander Security Force Central and with the main sponsorship of Lions Club Bandarawela.



SPECIAL TRAINING FOR QUICK REACTION RIDERS

14 days training course for Quick Reaction Rider Team which was commenced on 18 September 2023, ended successfully on 10 October 2023. The programme was commenced following the conceptual layout of Commander, Security Force Headquarters (Central) with the participation of 35 members. Major General W W H R R V M N D K B Niyangoda RWP RSP VSV USP ndu psc Commander, Security Force (Central), graced the certificate awarding ceremony.

The Quick Reaction Rider Team training programme is designed to achieve professionalism concerning bike riding skills, physical training, endurance, weapon training and live firing exercises, military tactics including internal security and real-time situational exercises. Professional instructor team from Special Forces enlightened the members of the Quick Reaction Rider Teams during the lectures and practical sessions. Senior Staff Officer, Officers and troops witnessed the programme.



DIRECTOR GENERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT VISITS ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND



Major General A H L G Amarapala RWP RSP ndc psc of the Sri Lanka Engineers who assumed office as the new Director General Financial Management of the Army visited Directorate of Army Benevolent Fund on 26 October 2023. Sharing the views, Director General Financial Management commended the service of Directorate of Army Benevolent Fund. The meeting culminated with the exchange of mementoes between Major General A H L G Amarapala RWP RSP ndc psc Director General Financial Management and Brigadier P R Samaraweera, Director, Directorate of Army Benevolent Fund.



DELICIOUS LUNCH FOR PRESCHOOL KIDS IN MUHUMALE

Following the conceptual layout of General Officer Commanding 52 Infantry Division and the instructions of Commander 552 Infantry Brigade, a delicious lunch was organised for preschool kids in Ilanthendrala, Muhumale on 27 September 2023. Accordingly, lunch was provided for 14 kids in the preschool.

MASSIVE STOCK OF SCHOOL ACCESSORIES GIFTS TO JAFFNA STUDENTS

Commanders of 221, 222, and 223 Infantry Brigades organised a programme to distribute past papers and educational supplements for the students on 18 September 2023 with the objective of assisting the children who are appearing for the Grade 5 scholarship examination. Major General G M N Perera RWP RSP USP ndc, General Officer Commanding, 22 Infantry Division conceptually designed the programme.

Accordingly, 1555 students who are appearing for grade 5 scholarship examination benefited from the programme. Royal College Old Boys' Association and the Alumni Association at University of Sri Jayawardenapura sponsored the projects.



The programme was implemented under the theme, 'Pahata Pahak' and each student received five model and five past question papers in the pack.

SCHOOL ACCESSORIES GIFTS AMONG JAFFNA STUDENTS

Massive school accessories were distributed among 48 students studying at Madihe Pangnaseeha Primary School located at Puttur under the supervision of Colonel M H R Fernando RWP RSP USP Commander, 511 Infantry Brigade on 19 September 2023.

Chief Sanganyaka of the Amarapura Sri Dhamma Rakkitha Chapter in Australia, Venerable Panditha Digamadulle Wimalananda Thero extended the financial generosity for the project.

Venerable Shrastrapathi Pandith Hakmana Sirisumana Thero, Venerable Shrastrapathi Panditha Galevela Vajira Thero, General Officer Commanding of 52 Infantry Division, took part in the programmes organised by Troops of 11 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment.



68 INFANTRY DIVISION CELEBRATES WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY

In line with the World Children's Day, a delicious lunch was organised on 01 October 2023 for the permanently disabled children at Iniya Wallu Isalm Orphanage under the patronage of 68 Infantry Division. The children then after was entertained with calypso music and kids exhibited their talents.



68 INFANTRY DIVISION TROOPS ORGANISED AN EYE CLINIC AT PUTHUKUDIYIRUPPU

Troops of the 68 Infantry Division organised an eye clinic for civilians with the assistance of the medical staff at Colombo South Hospital for the civilians living in Puthukudiyiruppu area. During the eye clinic, 125 visually-impaired civilians were identified and referred for consultations. In addition, troops distributed spectacles among those identified visually impaired personnel. Dr V Sarveshvaran provided the financial contribution for this community project.



SERIES OF PROGRAMMES FOR 74TH ANNIVERSARY OF SRI LANKA ARMY



A special 'Bodhi Pooja' ceremony was held at the Security Force Headquarters (Jaffna) premises with the motive of invoking blessings on the 74th Army Anniversary on 29 September 2023.

Brigadier K J N M P K Nawarathne RWP RSP, Brigadier General Staff of Security Force Headquarters (Jaffna) together with Staff Officers and Other Ranks participated in the religious observances. After the culmination of the programme, an alms giving was held for the residential monks at most sacred Nagadeepa Rajamaha Viharaya in Nainativu islands on 01 September 2023.



SENIOR LEADERSHIP AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT COURSE NO. 17

Senior Leadership Course No.17 conducted by Combat Training School, Ampara which was initiated on 18 September 2023 with the intention to improve the skills on individual and collective aspects of leadership of Senior Non-Commissioned Officers serving in the Sri Lanka Army while enlightening them on the Army Act and Orders to serve effectually and effectively for the organisation, successfully culminated at the auditorium of Combat Training School, Ampara on 13 October 2023.

53 candidates representing Regular and Volunteer Forces participated in the course. Colonel M K A D Chandimal Commandant, Combat Training School, Ampara conducted the closing remarks and awarded the certificates. Sergeant Bandara R M C S of 1 Military Intelligence Corps earned the merit of the course.

1 SRI LANKA SINHA REGIMENT CELEBRATES 67TH ANNIVERSARY



The 1 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment which was raised on 01 October 1956 as the country's first Rifle Battalion celebrated its 67th anniversary in a series of religious observances and military formalities at the Regimental Center of 1 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment Ambepussa on 07 October 2023 under the patronage of Major T K E Madawala USP psc Lsc, Commanding Officer, Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment. Many Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks took part in the anniversary celebrations.

HARVESTING CEREMONY AT 23 INFANTRY DIVISION



Following the conceptual layout of the General Officer Commanding 23 Infantry Division, "Aluth Sahal Mangalya" (Harvesting Ceremony) was held at the Siddapura Paddy Field after harvesting the paddy on 29 September 2023 with the participation of Officers and Other Ranks serving at the 23 Infantry Division. Accordingly, the milk boiling ceremony was held at the paddy land and the main portion of the harvest was offered to Buddha and Lord Ganesha giving prominence to the long-rooted customary traditions. Troops of 23 Infantry Division cultivated 23 acres of Siddapura Paddy land for the "Yala Season".

General Officer Commanding of 23 Infantry Division, Staff Officers and Other Ranks of Headquarters 23 Infantry Division participated in the event.



A SEMINAR FOR GRADE 5 SCHOOL CHILDREN

2 Sri Lanka National Guard organised a seminar for Grade 5 School Children at Jeyapuram Maha Vidyalaya targeting their grade 5 scholarship examination under the supervision of Colonel DS S Radalage RWP RSP, Commander, 552 Infantry Brigade on 08 October 2023. 253 students of the adjacent schools were benefited from the programme and delicious lunch was also provided during the seminar.

552 INFANTRY BRIGADE GIFTS SHOES FOR CHILDREN

In line with International Children's Day and 74th Anniversary of the Sri Lanka Army, troops of 552 Infantry Brigade and 22 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment organised a shoe distribution programme at Vinayasodei Tamil School, Poonarin on 02 October 2023.

Alumni Friends of Royal College Colombo - 07 and the Old Scholarly Friends of the University of Sri Jayawardanapura extended their financial generosity for the charity event. The programme was initiated following the conceptual layout of Commander Security Force (Jaffna) under the guidance of the General Officer Commanding, 55 Infantry Division. Troops of 552 Infantry Brigade extended their assistance to make the event a success. In addition, coconut saplings were also distributed among the parents of the students of the school.



A BOOK DONATION PROGRAMME FROM 563 BRIGADE



A book donation programme was held under the conceptual layout of General Officer Commanding 56 Infantry Division and guidance of Commander 563 Infantry Brigade on 18 September 2023. Accordingly, the students of Mahakachchikodiya School, Etambagaskada School, Nedunkulama School, Sri Dharmarathna Pirivena School, Kudakachchikodiya School, and Mahamilankulama School benefited from the programme.

Reverend Lindawewa Amarajothi Thero coordinated this donation programme and Mr. Sanath Ediriweera, President of the Public Service Commission and Dr. Ramya De Silva extended the required financial assistance. Troops of 11 Gemunu Watch also participated in the charity programme.



ARMY SEVA VANITHA UNIT MARKS ITS 39TH ANNIVERSARY

The 39th Anniversary of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU), was held under the patronage of Mrs Janaki Liyanage, President Army Seva Vanitha Unit on 16 October 2023 with the participation of its members at the multi-function hall at the Army Headquarters.

During the anniversary, President Army Seva Vanitha Unit, gifted hearing aids for a hearing-impaired daughter of Lance Corporal H M K L K Herath and a Juki sewing machine for the spouse of the deceased War Hero of the 9 Corps of Engineer Service Regiment to support her self-entrepreneurship.

Professor Hemamali Gunathilake conducted a thought-provoking lecture on 'Diversity and Inclusion' as a special feature of the meeting. The meeting concluded after a group photo and refreshments.



ARMY SEVA VANITHA UNIT LAUNCHES A MEGA PROJECT FOR CHILDREN'S DAY,



The Army Seva Vanitha Unit in collaboration with the Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch launched a mega project on 01 October 2023, coincident with the World's Children's Day at Regimental Centre, Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment, Boyagane under the patronage of Mrs. Janaki Liyange, President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit.

Mrs. Himali Pussella, Chairperson of Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch participated in the mega project together with senior members of the Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch. 100 children of orphanages in Kurunegala benefited from the programme.



In line with the same event, Mrs. Janaki Liyange, President, of Army Seva Vanitha Unit declared open the newly-built Archers' Publications complex in the Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment, Boyagane. In the meantime, the children entertained the audience showcasing their artistic talents and adding the colour for the programme. President, of Army Seva Vanitha Unit then after, distributed gift parcels among the 100 children from Maliyadeva Boys' Orphanage, Kurunegala, Maliyadeva Girls' Orphanage, Kurunegala, Kiri Mudiyanse Boys' Orphanage, Polgahawela, Sputnik Girls' orphanage, Kurunegala and Aloka Boys' Orphanage, Melsiripura.

At the same time, the President of Army Seva Vanitha Unit awarded gift packs, each worth Rs. 15,000.00 for 20 children of civil employees including the DSI gift vouchers and school accessories. Towards the end of the programme, all the children were entertained with a sumptuous lunch. Major General D M K D B Pussella RWP RSP, Colonel of the Regiment of Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment and Commandant, Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force, Major General S R B Aluvihare RWP RSP ndu psc, Adjutant General of the Army, Senior Officers, members of Army Seva Vanitha Unit took part in the distribution ceremony.

MANNING TOWN PRE SCHOOL CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY



Coincident with International Children's Day, a special programme unfolded at 'Viru Kekulu' Pre School in Manning Town under the patronage of Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit on 05 October 2023.

The preschool kids showcased a spectrum of vibrant performances entertaining the audience with delight. At the end of the programme, Mrs. Janaki Liyanage President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit distributed gift packs of school accessories among the preschool children.

SRI LANKA NATIONAL GUARD SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha and Sri Lanka National Guard Seva Vanitha Branch distributed financial aid for differently abled children and GCE A/L exam achievers in the Sri Lanka National Guard on 23 September 2023 during the Annual General Meeting of Sri Lanka National Guard Seva Vanitha Branch at the Regimental Centre, Sri Lanka National Guard, Heraliyawala. In line with the same event, of Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit and Sri Lanka National Guard Seva Vanitha Branch distributed several wheelchairs among the deserving children of Sri Lanka National Guard families.

The charity programme was launched under the conceptual guidance of the Commander of the Army and Colonel of the Regiment of Gajaba Regiment and Sri Lanka National Guard.

SRI LANKA ARMY CORPS OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK SEVA VANITHA BRANCH

The 'Saubhagya Handicrafts Trade Exhibition' of the Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch was staged at the Bodhirajarama school ground in Panagoda from 22 to 24 September 2023.

Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit graced the opening ceremony as the Chief Guest. Mrs. Shanthi Abeysekara, Chairperson, Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch initiated the project with the objective of promoting domestic production of handicrafts among its members to meet the local and international market of handicrafts.

In line with the same event, a valuable workshop to impart the knowledge and skills was also conducted. Senior Officers, members of Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch, and Other Ranks visited the exhibition.



GAJABA REGIMENT SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



The 15th Annual General Meeting of the Gajaba Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch was held at the Multifunction Hall Army Headquarters on 17 September 2023 under the patronage of Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit together with the Executive Committee and members.

During the meeting, a new executive committee was appointed for the Gajaba Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch and next year's welfare projects to be implemented were also discussed.

SRI LANKA SIGNAL CORPS SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



Sri Lanka Signal Corps Seva Vanitha Branch organised a blood donation programme in partnership with Apeksha Hospital, at the Regimental Centre, Sri Lanka Signal Corps on 6 October 2023. The programme was launched under the guidance of Mrs. Nalani Ratnayake, the President of the Sri Lanka Signal Corps Seva Vanitha Branch with the participation of 100 Army personnel of different regiments. A team of medical professionals from Apeksha Hospital provided generous assistance for the programme.

SRI LANKA LIGHT INFANTRY SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



A scholarship programme to assist the children of both deceased and serving War Heroes of the Sri Lanka Light Infantry Seva Vanitha Branch was held at Regimental Centre, Sri Lanka Light Infantry under the patronage of Mrs. Uthpala Hettiarachchi, Chairperson, Sri Lanka Light Infantry Seva Vanitha Branch on 14 October 2023. During the programme, scholarships, each valued at Rs. 20,000.00, were distributed.

Additionally, families consisting of four or more children also received cash donations amounting to Rs. 10,000.00 for the first month and a further sum of Rs. 20,000.00 for the subsequent two months during the programme in order to ease the burdens of these families. In line with the same event, an insightful lecture on "Interpersonal therapy" was delivered by Dr. Rummy Rooban, providing valuable guidance for fostering healthy relationships and addressing interpersonal issues.

GEMUNU WATCH SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



The Gemunu Watch Seva Vanitha Branch donated books for the library of Vivegananda School at Nonperial Estate in Balangoda under the patronage of Mrs. Manori Welagedara, Chairperson of the Gemunu Watch Seva Vanitha Branch on 29 September 2023. In line with the same event, a number of games were organised for the entertainment of the school children and awarded the prizes for the winners of the event. Furthermore, two pairs of spectacles worth of Rs 30000.00 were also donated for two children in line with International Children's Day.

VIJAYABAHU INFANTRY REGIMENT SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



Mrs. Himali Pussella, the President, Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch and its members made a visit to the "Abhimansala – I (wellness resort), Anuradhapura on 23 September 2023 to inquire about well-being of the residentially rehabilitating War Heroes.

During the visit, President, Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch declared open the newly constructed building for ekle broom project and later distributed specially designed gift packs among all inmates of "Abhimansala – I (wellness resort), Anuradhapura.

COMMANDO REGIMENT SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



To coincide with the Children's Day, Commando Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch visited the Sri Wimalawansa Children's Development Centre in 'Ranmuthugala Viharaya', Kadawatha on 01 October 2023 and provided the children with essentials and a dinner treat. Mrs. Nimali Ranatunga, the President of the Commando Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch together with its members joined the charity event.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE CORPS SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



Members of the Military Intelligence Corps Seva Vanitha Branch visited 'Abhimansala - I' wellness resort in Anuradhapura, intending to inquire about the welfare of War-Heroes undergoing rehabilitation together with Mrs. Rajitha Jayasooriya, the President, of Military Intelligence Corps Seva Vanitha Branch on 19 August 2023. The President, of Military Intelligence Corps Seva Vanitha Branch donated 15 electric kettles at the request of 'Abhimansala - I' wellness resort in Anuradhapura.

CORPS OF ENGINEER SERVICES SEVA VANITHA BRANCH

'Pahata Pahak' programme, aimed at preparing candidates for the Grade 5 scholarship examination commenced at the Corps of Engineer Services, Regimental Centre in Panagoda under the patronage of Corps of Engineer Services Seva Vanitha Branch on 23 September 2023. Mr. Prasad Lokubalasooriya of the Colombo Royal College Past Pupils' Association sponsored the programme.

Additionally, a children's programme that included fun-making games and activities was also organised under the guidance of Mrs. Surangi Amarapala, Chairperson, Corps of Engineer Services Seva Vanitha Branch on 07 October 2023. At the end of the programme, all children received prizes. A musical event entertained the children and a delicious lunch was served to the students during the programme.



SRI LANKA ARMY SERVICE CORPS SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



Mrs. Thushari Wanigasekara, the President of Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch declared open a fully-equipped beauty salon, Salon 'Elegant Styles', on 21 September 2023.

The newly opened Salon 'Elegant Styles' offers top-notch beauty services at concessional prices, ensuring dedicated service in care in hairdressing and beauty culture. Furthermore, the salon extends its support to military weddings with providing exclusive discounts. Center Commandant, Sri Lanka Army Service Corps along with members of the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch graced the opening event.

SRI LANKA ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



Following the conceptual layout of Mrs. Banduni Magret Ranasin Ranawaka, the President, Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps Seva Vanitha Branch organised a series of charity projects in support of children in need with the assistance of the Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps Seva Vanitha Branch at the 'Surasa' Child Development Centre in Waththegama.

Accordingly, dry rations, gift packs, and refreshments were distributed among 28 children of 'Sukitha Children's Home' in Galpatha on 21 September 2023 on account of its 32nd anniversary of the School of Ordnance. This event aimed to support 80 children who are mentally and physically susceptible in different age groups. Colonel Commandant of the Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps, the Centre Commandant, and the Commanding Officer of 4 Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps supervised the project. Several Senior Officers, Officers, Lady Officers, and Other Ranks participated in this event.

SRI LANKA ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch was held on 26 September 2023 at the Regimental Centre, Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, with participation of more than 60 Members of Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch including executive board members.

Mrs. Nanadani Samarakoon, President of Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Mrs. Chandrika Kumari, Mrs. Priyadarshani Sirinaga Former President of Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Seva Vanitha Branch also attended the Annual General Meeting.

SRI LANKA CORPS OF MILITARY POLICE SEVA VANITHA BRANCH

Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police Seva Vanitha Branch organised a fruit donation programme at Apeksha Hospital Maharagama on 14 October 2023 with the participation of Mrs. Priyanthika De Zoysa, the President, Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police Seva Vanitha Branch. Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police Seva Vanitha Branch and Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police School extended the generous sponsorship for the charity event.

Major General A C A De Zoysa USP Hdmc Lsc Provost Marshal of Sri Lanka Army and the Colonel Commandant of Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police, Mrs. Priyanthika de Zoysa, the President, Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police



Seva Vanitha Branch and its members participated in the charity programme.

SRI LANKA ARMY GENERAL SERVICE CORPS SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch organised a distribution programme for the students of St. Micheal School in Colpetty on 02 October 2023 in line with World Children's Day following the conceptual layout of Mrs.(Dr) Himali Niyangoda, the President of Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch. Troops of Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps extended their generous assistance for the charity programme. Sentaniyal Lion's Club, Colombo extended their financial generosity for the charity work. Apart from the distribution programme, essential accessories and lunch were distributed after showcasing a magic event.

The Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps Seva Vanitha Branch organised a special mental wellness programme for 34 female patients undergoing residential treatment at Ward No. 05 of the National Institute of Mental Health, Mulleriyawa on 26 September 2023.

The programme was launched under the guidance of Mrs. Shyamali Wijesekera, Chairperson, of the Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps Seva Vanitha Branch and its members and inquired and distributed gift parcels to the patients. At the end of the programme, a special music programme entertained them.

Moreover, the water storage tank and damaged places of the ward No. 5 were repaired by troops of the Corps of Engineer Services under the guidance and instructions of Major General U D Wijesekera RWP RSP USP rcds psc Commander Security Forces (West) and Colonel Commandant of the Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps. Additionally, a stock of gift parcels consisting of basic needs were also distributed among patients.

SRI LANKA ARMY WOMEN'S CORPS SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



CORPS OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK SEVA VANITHA BRANCH



Mrs. Shehani Fernando took over duties on 09 October 2023 as the new Chairperson of the Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch, during a simple ceremony at the Regimental Centre, Corps of Agriculture and Livestock, Ambalangoda amid religious blessings and warm greetings. Senior members of the Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks participated in the event.

SPECIAL ROOM CHARGES OF LAYA HOTELS



Type	Meal Plan	For Army 1 PAX	For Army 2 PAX	For Army 3 PAX	For Army 4 PAX	For Army 5 PAX	For Army 6 PAX	For Army Room Only	Base Rate for Civil
SGL	BB	7,200.00	8,400.00						21,500.00
	HB	8,700.00	10,200.00					6,000.00	23,600.00
	FB	10,200.00	11,700.00						25,800.00
DBL	BB	9,200.00	10,400.00	11,600.00	12,800.00				23,000.00
	HB	10,700.00	12,200.00	13,700.00	15,200.00			8,000.00	27,300.00
	FB	12,200.00	13,700.00	15,200.00	16,700.00				31,200.00
TPL	BB	11,700.00	12,900.00	14,100.00	15,300.00	16,500.00	17,700.00		25,200.00
	HB	13,200.00	14,700.00	16,200.00	17,700.00	19,200.00	20,700.00	10,500.00	31,800.00
	FB	14,700.00	16,200.00	17,700.00	19,200.00	20,700.00	22,200.00		37,600.00



Type	Meal Plan	For Army 1 PAX	For Army 2 PAX	For Army 3 PAX	For Army 4 PAX	For Army 5 PAX	For Army 6 PAX	For Army Room Only	Base Rate for Civil
SGL	BB	9,200.00	10,400.00						23,066.67
	HB	10,700.00	12,200.00					8,000.00	30,000.00
	FB	12,200.00	13,700.00						36,666.67
DBL	BB	11,200.00	12,400.00	13,600.00	14,800.00				36,666.67
	HB	12,700.00	14,200.00	15,700.00	17,200.00			10,000.00	50,666.67
	FB	14,200.00	15,700.00	17,200.00	18,700.00				64,000.00
TPL	BB	13,200.00	14,400.00	15,600.00	16,800.00	18,000.00	19,200.00		52,666.67
	HB	14,700.00	16,200.00	17,700.00	19,200.00	20,700.00	22,200.00	12,000.00	73,333.33
	FB	16,200.00	17,700.00	19,200.00	20,700.00	22,200.00	23,700.00		93,333.33



Type	Meal Plan	For Army 1 PAX	For Army 2 PAX	For Army 3 PAX	For Army 4 PAX	For Army 5 PAX	For Army 6 PAX	For Army Room Only	Base Rate for Civil
SGL	BB	8,200.00	9,400.00						15,000.00
	HB	9,700.00	11,200.00					7,000.00	16,500.00
	FB	11,200.00	12,700.00						19,500.00
DBL	BB	9,200.00	10,400.00	11,600.00	12,800.00				16,500.00
	HB	10,700.00	12,200.00	13,700.00	15,200.00			8,000.00	18,000.00
	FB	12,200.00	13,700.00	15,200.00	16,700.00				21,000.00
TPL	BB	12,200.00	13,400.00	14,600.00	15,800.00	17,000.00	18,200.00		18,000.00
	HB	13,700.00	15,200.00	16,700.00	18,200.00	19,700.00	21,200.00	11,000.00	19,500.00
	FB	15,200.00	16,700.00	18,200.00	19,700.00	21,200.00	22,700.00		22,500.00



Type	Meal Plan	For Army 1 PAX	For Army 2 PAX	For Army 3 PAX	For Army 4 PAX	For Army 5 PAX	For Army 6 PAX	For Army Room Only	Base Rate for Civil
SGL	BB	8,200.00	9,400.00						15,000.00
	HB	9,700.00	11,200.00					7,000.00	16,500.00
	FB	11,200.00	12,700.00						19,500.00
DBL	BB	9,200.00	10,400.00	11,600.00	12,800.00				16,500.00
	HB	10,700.00	12,200.00	13,700.00	15,200.00			8,000.00	18,000.00
	FB	12,200.00	13,700.00	15,200.00	16,700.00				21,000.00
TPL	BB	12,200.00	13,400.00	14,600.00	15,800.00	17,000.00	18,200.00		18,000.00
	HB	13,700.00	15,200.00	16,700.00	18,200.00	19,700.00	21,200.00	11,000.00	19,500.00
	FB	15,200.00	16,700.00	18,200.00	19,700.00	21,200.00	22,700.00		22,500.00



FINAL PLANNING CONFERENCE OF 'MITRA SHAKTHI EXERCISE 9' IN INDIA

The Sri Lanka Army delegation headed by Major General M G W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc, Director General General Staff and Major General K P S A Fernando RWP RSP ndu, Director General Infantry, participated in the final planning conference for 'Mitra Shakthi Exercise 9' at the Indian Army's 330 Infantry Brigade Headquarters in Pune, India from 19 to 21 October 2023.

A group of 35 Officers and 93 Other Ranks from the Armed Forces of Sri Lanka are expected to joined the exercise in India. During the discussions, both parties took up important matters pertaining to the conduct of the 'Mitra Shakthi Exercise 9', scheduled to commence from 16 November to 29 November 2023 in India. Major General P G P S Rathnayake RWP RSP ndc General Officer Commanding of 53 Infantry Division and Brigadier P K S Nandana RSP USP psc also participated in the discussions.

CELEBRATING 74TH ARMY ANNIVERSARY IN MALI

The troops of the 5th Sri Lankan Combat Convoy Company (CCC) engaged in peacekeeping duties of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSMA) in the State of Mali joined celebrations of the 74th Army Day at Gao Super Camp on 10 October 2023.

The celebrations were organised under the guidelines of provided by Army Headquarters and Colonel W W N P Wickramaarachchi, Contingent Commander of 5 CCC graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.



Troops gathered and hoisted the flags and sang the Army anthem and read the message of the Commander of the Army. The event culminated with a cultural show and an All-Rank dinner.



US DELEGATION CALLS AT IPSOTSL

US delegation, mandated to evaluate the role of women in peace maintaining and peace building called at Sri Lanka's Institute of Peace Support Operations Training Sri Lanka (IPSOTSL) at Kukuleganga on 22 September 2023.



The US delegation was comprised of Ms. Violeta Roman, US Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs, Ms. Valerie Ann Beglay, US Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs, Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Nelson-Defence Attaché, US Embassy Colombo, Mr. Mathew Hinson, Political Officer, US Embassy of Colombo, Captain Caitlin Pennicooke, Foreign Affairs Officer, US Embassy of Colombo and Mr. Kapila Dissanayake, Security Cooperation Specialist Office of Defence Cooperation.

A fruitful discussion ensued with the delegation that covered the subject of Women in Peace and Security Efforts where views were exchanged and possibilities for enhancement of participation in UN Peacekeeping assignments were taken up for discussion. The delegation also had a look at the existing training facilities at the IPSOTSL and assured support for more opportunities in the Global Peace Operations Initiatives (GPOI) for the 2024 training schedule.

SLFPC TROOPS IN LEBANON PARTICIPATES IN UNIFIL FOOD FESTIVAL

The 'International Food Festival and Cultural Show 2023', one of the highlights in the year which showcases the diversity of culinary practices of different nations serving the United Nations Interim Force In Lebanon (UNIFIL) Headquarters got underway on 6 October 2023 in front of the International PX compound at UNIFIL Headquarters, Naquora. The event was organised annually by the UNIFIL Welfare and Recreation Committee (WRC) with the purpose of demonstrating multifaceted traditional cuisines and cultural spectacles of different nations at UNIFIL Headquarters.



The stall put up by Sri Lankan troops served traditional Sri Lankan food varieties, prepared by 14 Sri Lanka Force Protection Company (SLFPC) troops and Sri Lankan beverages. Also, the folk dances performed by the cultural troupe and musical talents of the Calypso team of the Sri Lankan troops added glamour and attraction.



HISTORY OF MILITARY MESS KIT

A mess kit is a collection of silverware and cookware designed for use by military personnel for food and military rations. They may also be used during camping and backpacking. There are many varieties of mess kits that militaries issue to their personnel that later become available to consumers. While functionally similar to a one-man civilian mess kit, military mess kits are designed to be even more compact, using their space as efficiently as possible. Thus lids will almost always be used for preparing, cooking, and/or eating, and usually come in two or three pieces. As such, it may sacrifice certain features, or use other features to complement it.

A mess tin is an item in a mess kit, designed to be used over portable cooking apparatus. Mess tins were originally a military design, but are also popular among civilian campers. Portable food containers and mess tins were used by military forces for centuries, although these early forms were less standardized and sophisticated than modern mess tins. They were typically made from materials like wood, leather, or metals like tin, iron, or copper. There is limited documentation and visual representation of mess tins from the 17th century and earlier. Mess tins are generally rectangular with rounded off edges - the rounded edges are easier to clean inside than a sharp corner. Most

mess tins are supplied as a set, with one slightly larger than the other, allowing them to nestle together for easy packing. This arrangement is also useful when using the tins for boiling, as the smaller tin can be used to hold the liquid, with the larger tin placed on top to act as a lid. In order to save weight, some designs stick with a single mess tin with a lid, with the lid often having a secondary role as a frying pan.

The Swiss mess kit (French *gamelle*) was originally introduced in 1875 in the form of a pot made of tin-plated sheet steel with a lid and handle. That first design was however later deemed unsuitable and so in 1882 a revised design was introduced which is closer to the Canteen-cup system design: a tall, one litre canteen, with a stove that cups the bottom of the bottle and a cup/pot that goes over the canteen; the cup can fit inside the stove, better heating its contents. The German mess kit (*Essgeschirr*) was designed in 1908, a modification of a Swiss design from 1882. Originally, the base held two litres, marked into 1/4 sections, and the lid holding another 1/4. This model replaced the 1850 *Kochgeschirr*. The new 1908 *Essgeschirr* was made of aluminium and not designed for cooking; only to contain food distributed from field kitchens. The early models of the 1908 were painted in a distinct matte black. In 1910, the aluminum handle was replaced with one of galvanised iron, as aluminum often got hot in the soldiers' hands. The 1908 model was in production until 1940. In 1931, a model later called *Kochgeschirr 31* (Cooking pot model 31) was developed. It was capable of cooking, and held 1.7 litres. With only very minor changes, this model remained in service with the German military (both East and West) as well as with the German disaster relief services, which were painted grey. They were mainly used in conjunction with a folding Esbit stove, which, when folded, could store Esbit pellets and occupy a very small area. The German mess kit was usually held together with a leather strap, which was used to fasten the mess kit to the soldier's bread bag in combat order or assault pack of the webbing equipment in marching order.



The Swiss mess kit (French gamelle)



The geometry of the older British mess tins

The geometry of the older British mess tins varied substantially. The 1810 (1813–14)-model was semicircular or "C" shaped in plan view and was made of tinned iron. The tray of the 1810-model had no handle but nested inside the pan or lower section. The lid covered the pan and had a pull ring for easy removal, but apparently had no other intended use. The bail was curved. The 1854-model was "D" shaped in plan view and was made of tinned iron. It was fabricated from front and back panels of sheet metal. The tray or cup nested inside the pan. The handle of the tray or cup folded inside but was on the flat "back side" forcing the user to drink from the broadly curved front. The lid was intermediate in depth, could be used as a plate, and set down securely on the pan. The bail was square shaped and the corners were tight curves. The 1874-model was made of tinned steel and had a "D" plan view with rounded corners. The tray or cup piece had a folding handle that opened to the side. The tray also functioned as a deep lid for the pan. This change from the 1854-model allowed the use of the narrow and tighter curved side of the cup rim for drinking. It also permitted the tray to briefly be held over a fire. The corners of the square shaped bail were also more rounded. A new pattern of mess tin was developed for the Web Equipment 1937 Pattern, which was a nested, two-piece rectangular mess tin with long, folding handles. An enamelled tin mug was used for drinking hot liquids. The water bottle of the 1908 Pattern Web Equipment was unchanged, though the web carrier was changed to incorporate the 1-inch-wide brace ends of the 1937 gear. The contemporary British Armed Forces generally use mess tins for cooking in the field, although with the British Armed Forces primarily using Boil in the Bag rations, many soldiers prefer a single large metal mug, as one item can be used to cook food and to make and consume hot drinks, thereby cutting down on equipment weight. As such cups fit beneath the standard water bottle, they also take up less space in the soldiers' equipment.



The Soviet Army mess kit

During the Second World War the Soviet Army mess kit was a two-piece design similar to that used by the German Wehrmacht that consisted of a large main canteen part, and a smaller saucepan component that also doubled as the mess tin lid. The kit also had a wire handle which many soldiers used to hang the mess kit from their web equipment or backpack. This design was supplemented in the mid-1980s with a second design that featured a metal water bottle held in the middle. The next layer of the set was a large canteen/cooking pot with a wire handle, then a smaller saucepan-type component with a folding metal handle. This last component fitted over the base of the larger cooking pot, the handle was then folded up and clipped over the cooking pot and the lip of the water bottle. This variant was often called "VDV type". The mess set was sometimes issued with a pouch, although this was by no means certain and many soldiers simply hung it onto their equipment from the wire handle. Officers were often issued a satchel-type bag for their mess kits in keeping with their smart image. This latest design of mess kit continues to be used today in the armies of many former Soviet republics, but in recent years the military of



the Russian Federation has stopped issuing mess kits to soldiers due to the lack of adequate supply owing to the size of newly formed combat units, lack of adequate domestic production, poor storage of existing units and the sale of Soviet-era stockpiles to civilians and third-party buyers.

References:

"British Military Spectacle: From the Napoleonic Wars Through the Crimea" by Scott Hughes Myerly

"The British Soldier of the First World War" by Peter Doyle

"German Military Cooking Equipment, 1713-1945" by Robert J. Bender

"Imperial German Field Uniforms and Equipment 1907-1918" by Johan Somers

"Equipment of the German Army, 1933-1945" by Robert J. Edwards



Mr. Keido Kuruberg
Estonia

Note to readers

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



EXTREME RELIGIOUS FUNDAMENTALISM CHALLENGES TO PEACE AND SOCIAL HARMONY IN SRI LANKA

INTRODUCTION

Fundamentalism, radicalization, extremism, and terrorism are interconnected terms that require a meticulous examination to distinguish their distinct features. Radicalization involves individuals adopting violence as an acceptable means, even though it is not, to promote their extreme beliefs. This process typically involves an ideology that surpasses the established legal and social norms, and it is often considered an essential initial stage in an individual's progression toward violent extremism.

1. Fundamentalism. The concept of fundamentalism has connections with various religions, such as Christianity, Hinduism, Judaism, and notably in Islam. In its early history, fundamentalism exhibited traits resembling fascism, rejecting liberal and democratic values. It was typically led by an elite class of religious leaders who derived their authority from established religious traditions. Another point of debate in fundamentalism is the rigorous adherence to religious doctrines, especially in Islam, or the belief that everything written in the Bible is absolute truth in Christianity.

2. Extremism. Extremism is a phenomenon that seeks to impose its beliefs on others through fear and force, often accompanied by armed actions. It destroys the fragile balance, safety, and endurance of human rights. This ideology is shared by various individuals and has the potential to seriously disrupt societal structures. Violent extremism is closely intertwined with terrorism, making it difficult to draw a clear line between the two. Extremists are intolerant of other cultures and religions, resorting to force against those with differing opinions, both in ideology and actions. Extremism does not have fixed targets, and its motives may lead to attacks against various entities, including government institutions, the general public, people of all ages, and citizens, whether they are nationals or foreigners, using any means available.

Extremism can be found in various societies and religions, and stands out due to its widespread, well-connected, ruthless, and highly motivated nature. In recent years, there have been numerous horrific incidents involving extremism carrying out acts of violence, such

as bombings, shootings, and other heinous activities, targeting both secular communities and individuals who adhere to different religions. It is evident that extremism is rooted in unwavering beliefs and does not allow for any adjustments. Consequently, there is no room for compromise in the realms of politics, economics, or religion.

ROOT CAUSES OF FUNDAMENTALISM AND THE EXTREMISM

There are various extreme communities globally, and they are interconnected, often engaging in conflicts based on religious ideologies and different branches/sectarians. This rivalry has led to the infiltration of extreme fundamentalist ideologies into its education systems and the establishment of religious teachings, which can have catastrophic consequences for the world. This situation is exacerbated by radical, moderate, and unconventional religious centers, which are, in turn, a result of fundamentalism. In such education systems driven by extreme ideologies tend to produce radical communities who undergo psychological transformations and adopt moderate religious ideologies.

In general, religious seminary that provides traditional education covering various subjects. However, in recent years, unconventional and untraditional religious seminary have been identified as major contributors to the spread of extremist ideologies on a global scale. These ideologies have gradually infiltrated the unconventional religious institutions, leading to a transformation in the mindset of devout youth, instilling a more fundamentalist interpretation of religious scriptural beliefs.

The cognitive changes in youths have been manipulated by emphasizing religious expansion, retribution, punishments, and the promise of a more comfortable afterlife as described in the Holy scriptures which is as a misinterpretation. In essence, this represents a form of psychological indoctrination, encouraging their devotees and individuals to embrace extremism in the name of religion, particularly within the context.

The prevalence of extreme ideology within the peaceful society of Sri Lanka can be attributed to a complex interplay of various factors. Religious-based extremism has been on the rise, particularly among the extreme communities in Sri Lanka. Reformist and unconventional groups have played a significant role in disseminating their ideologies and beliefs on radicalism. Many of these radicalized groups have advocated for changes in the legal system, the implementation of religious law, the enforcement of specific codes for women, food requirements, as well as issues related to other religious

archeological sites, among other matters.

Several key factors are identified as the contributors to expansion of extremism in Sri Lanka, including changes in influences and attitudes, political support at various levels, and international backing. Additionally, the close connections between Sri Lankan extremists and foreign militia groups, clandestine efforts to influence radicalized youth, media engagement, and support from local communities and politics are notable contributors.

3. After conducting a thorough analysis of extreme fundamentalism, several recommendations have been formulated, including the following:

a. The establishment of a coordinated mechanism involving the tri-services, civil police, intelligence services, and relevant civil organizations, such as the Department of Immigration and Emigration, to oversee individuals who have returned from foreign employment.

b. It is recommended that all religious establishments, irrespective of their sectarian affiliations, undergo a registration process and adhere to a standardized curriculum.

c. Ensuring transparency and uniformity in the evaluation and examination system for religious education, which would be applied nationwide, is advised.

d. Furthermore, any alterations to the religious curriculum should be subject to regulation by the Ministry of Education.

e. All religious organizations, including those with sectarian distinctions, should complete the registration process under the jurisdiction of the respective religious Department, which operates within the Ministry of Religious and Cultural Affairs.

f. The introduction of new legal frameworks and regulations is proposed to curtail the unauthorised expansion of religious establishments.

g. It is imperative to enhance the effectiveness of our coordinated intelligence network. This entails fostering collaboration and synergy among the armed forces, law enforcement agencies, and affiliated institutions when confronted with the challenges of extremism.

h. It is recommended that instructors employed in religious teaching possess strong qualifications and professional expertise in the field of particular religious education. These teachers should be formally appointed through legal procedures by either the Ministry of Religious and Cultural Affairs or the Ministry of Education.

i. The government should institute a comprehensive plan or system in partnership with the central bank and

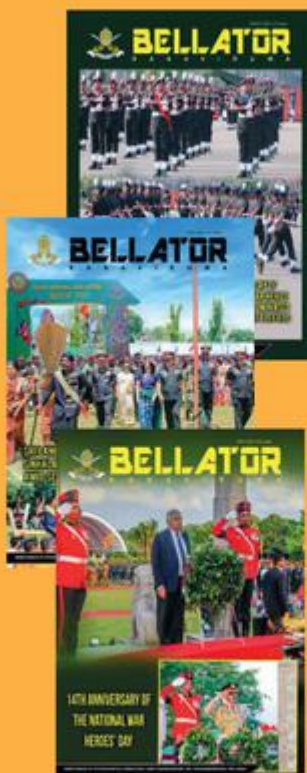
relevant stakeholders in the financial sector to oversee and govern illicit money laundering and financial transactions that may have connections to extremist activities.

j. It is imperative to formulate and rigorously implement a national security policy designed to counteract the spread of religious extremism.

k. The intelligence services should devise a comprehensive strategy for the vigilant surveillance of local institutions as a means of preventing extremism. Particular attention should be paid to the identification of radicalized and fundamentalist religious youth groups and their associated activities.



*Major Sagara Ruwansiri
Directorate Psychological Operations
Army Headquarters*



Share your thoughts with Bellator

If you have a story to tell Bellator, we would love to hear from you..!

Overcoming challenges in career, your inspirational stories, lessons learnt, gallantry acts, unforgettable experiences, poetic insights, living with disability and coping and many more...

Send in your story to: ranaviruwa@yahoo.com

Your thought-provoking insights enrich our understanding, offering invaluable perspective. We reserve the right to accept or reject the letters, and to edit for length, clarity or style. Before you write in, we encourage you to get the permission via your respective chain of command.

Your Details

Service No:..... Rank:.....

Name:.....

Formation (where you work) :.....

Contact :.....

Country :.....

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

Protect Your Child from Abuses



Abuses or impact maltreatment generate negative effects for individuals mentally and physically with life-long consequences. Especially when it comes to child abuse the effects are lifelong. The World Health Organization (WHO) provides a wider explanation for the term child maltreatment.

Accordingly, WHO definition "Child maltreatment is the abuse and neglect that occurs to children under 18 years of age. It includes all types of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect, negligence, and commercial or other exploitation that results in actual or potential harm to the child's health, survival, development, or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust, or power."

In the Sri Lankan context, every day we hear about hundreds of unfortunate cases of child maltreatment through print, electronic, and social media, including physical and/or emotional ill-treatment and sexual abuse. As a nation, it is essentially required to address such situations and it is a paramount important to cure them for the betterment of the future. For such actions, parents have the potential to foresee and prevent such incidents taking place. This article is mainly focused to educate the parents on protective to prevent child falling in a trouble.

Teach them about the human body and its changes: Teach them about the human body and its changes changes, and how the human body works or functions. Why are males and females different? How did the human body change with age?

Talk about functions of sexual organ and their purposes: Elaborate on good habits with good results and bad habits with lifelong bad outcomes, like sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Explain how disastrous HIV/AIDS, etc.

Pay your attention to their day-to-day activities: Show your attentiveness always. Do not avoid them at any cost, even if you are busy with work. Make them feel together.

Ask and pay attention: Pay attention to their lives, especially to new people and incidents they are involved in. Don't stop with it; have some knowledge of those new people and behaviours.

Keep away from social media: Keep away from social media, and monitor social media behaviours. There are many connections and pieces of content that are openly available but harmful for kids. If the child watch it without control, it creates an uncomfortable tomorrow with effusions.

Talk about incidents in the media with a constructive tone. Explain those incidents as lessons for anyone without

being affected or facing inconvenient scenarios. Those can be taken as lessons learned from without participating in real activities.

Closely monitor the mental and physical changes of your child. For example, mood changes like anger, crying, avoidance behaviour, and physical changes including wounds, cuts, stretches, burn marks, etc. If you find those, talk with a calm tone.

Talk to them about their boundaries as kids. This will be highly appropriate with understanding for the development of the child. Teach them about their rights to avoid unwanted touching, hugging, relatives or strangers. Let your child identify that their body is their own.

Be friendly with your child and encourage them to talk. Your friendly and courageous activities will make the kid more comfortable. Then they will feel safe and react to talk freely on any matter.

Control your emotions: As parents, control your emotions and make responsible decisions. Let your kids know you are always vigilant about them and the environment.

Say no to drugs and substances. This will make you an example to them. Especially elaborate them on how drugs and substances are interconnected with abuse in different lifestyle scenarios.

Divert your kid to a religious and mindfulness-based simple lifestyle. It will teach them the correct way of living according to the teachings of each religion. Subsequently, divert them to be open and clear.

These are some important tips to protect your child from abuse. Similarly, the protection of own child does not create a better tomorrow. It needs to have active participation during social interactions.

Therefore, if you see any behavioural change, painful incident, bad behaviours, or attempt by someone towards a child, raise your voice against such an attitude or protect them. You must do it because looking at a crime without opposing it is also a crime.

Even then, you might feel insecure at when reacting against such behaviour by a third party, still you can inform on this regard for the responsible authorities via 1929 to National Child Protection Authority (NCPA) in Sri Lanka or the Child and Women's Bureau Sri Lanka. (0112 444 444).



By Captain Nisal Rukshan SLSR
BSc (Honours) Counseling Psychology
Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment

Charity Palmcard

1. Medical Aids for Civilians



542 Infantry Brigade organised a medical health care clinic on 28 October 2023 at at Murunkan Maha Vidyalaya, Mannar.

2. Free Spectacles for Thoppigala Civilians



Troops of the 12 Sri Lanka National Guard (SLNG) organised a medical campaign to examine vision impairments and provided 150 free spectacles to needy civilians in Thoppigala area on 28 October at the Pulpanchikal MOH office complex.

3. Disaster Assistance for Matara



Troops of the 61 Infantry Division provided the transport assistance for the flood victims in Matara on 24 October 2023.

4. Fertilising Abandoned Paddy Fields



3 (V) Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment and 9 Sri Lanka National Guard troops in Puthukkudiyiruppu and Sudandipuram areas assisted local farmers by tilling and preparing their abandoned paddy fields for re- cultivation during 14 - 19 October 2023.

5. Milk Packets for Kolonnawa



Security Force Headquarters (West) and the Green Agriculture Operations Centre distributed 432 milk powder packets among 216 selected Kolonnawa area families on 18 October 2023.

6. Houses for Deserving Families



10 Gajaba Regiment and 2 (V) Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment built four new houses for four deserving families in, Kandy and vested for the beneficiaries on 17 October 2023.

7. Cleaning Boralessgamuwa Lake



Disaster Response Squadron of the 14 Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Engineer (CBRNE) of the Sri Lanka Engineer (SLE) removed pollutants in Boralessgamuwa Lake on 12 October 2023.



4 Sri Lanka Light Infantry prevented a major split on the 'Rajamaha' tank bund in the Thalakiriyagama Grama Seva Division in Matala on 15 October 2023.

8. Preventing a Major Catastrophe



9. Blood Donation



64 Infantry Division volunteered to donate their blood for patients at Mullaittivu hospital on 15 October 2023.

10. Cleaning Community Hall



9 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment lent their tireless assistance to clean and clear flood-affected Community Health Service Center in Galboda on 17 October 2023.

11. Relocating People Threatened with Landslides



Alert to an imminent threat of landslides in Makaldeniya in Koslanda area in the Badulla District, troops of the Security Force Headquarters (Central) relocated 149 civilians of threatened families in Ganesha Tamil School for their safety on 14 October 2023.

12. Providing Leadership Traits



3 (V) Gemunu Watch (GW) conducted a workshop at the University of Ruhuna on 5 October 2023 in order to educate university undergraduates at University of Ruhuna on the value of leadership traits.



SPORT

FROM THE BATTLEGROUND TO THE PLAYGROUND



Sergeant Nadeesha Ramanayake of Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps competing in the 'Asian Games' in China clinched a Bronze medal in the 4 x 400 m relay run (Women) on 4 October 2023.

Clocking 3.30.88 minutes, she however presented a formidable challenge to the fellow runners and concluded in the third place after four rounds. The relay was joined by Jayeshi Uththara, Lakshima Mendis and Tharushi Karunarathne from Sri Lanka.

4 X 400 M RELAY RUN (WOMEN)



Meanwhile, Staff Sergeant Kalinga Kumaraage, Sergeant Aruna Dharshana, Corporal Rajitha Rajakaruna and Lance Bombardier Pabashara Niku of the Sri Lanka Army made another new Sri Lankan record in the 'Asian Games' by grabbing a Bronze medal in the 4 x 400 m relay run (Men). The team jointly recorded 3.02.55 minutes.

JAVELIN THROW 'ASIAN GAMES'

Making a new Sri Lankan record after absence of 17 years in the 'Asian Games' in Hangzhou, China, Sergeant Nadeesha Lekamge of 2 (V) Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps (SLAWC) won the Silver Medal in Javelin Throw with record distance of 61.57 meters.

More than 12,000 athletes from all 45 members of the Olympic Council of Asia participated in the '19th Asian Games', in Hangzhou, China.



PARA JAVELIN THROW



Warrant Officer II, K A Samitha Dulan of Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police (SLCMP) won the Silver Medal in the Para Javelin Throw F - 44 (Distance - 64.09m) event in the 4th Asian Para Games 2023 held in Hangzhou, China 25 October 2023. Representing Sri Lanka National Team, 6 Army Para Athletics participated in the Asian Para Games.



LAYTON CUP BOXING TOURNAMENT



Sri Lanka Army Boxers triumphantly concluded the Layton Cup Boxing Tournament as top rankers winning 11 Gold, 06 Silver and 15 Bronze Medals, during the tournament held at Sugathadasa Indoor Stadium. The tournament continued from 1 to 4 October 2023 with the participation of leading boxing clubs of Sri Lanka including Tri-Services.

The Layton Cup Boxing Tournament is a prime national boxing tournament organized by the Sri Lanka Boxing Association. 44 Army boxers took part in the tournament and secured 8 Gold, 04 Silver and 13 Bronze medals in the Men's category while women boxers bagging 3 Gold, 2 Silver and 2 Bronze Medals in the finals. In addition, Private H K N M Perera H K N M of Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps was crowned as the Best Boxer in the women's category.



NATIONAL MASTERS SNOOKER TOURNAMENT 2023

The National Masters' Snooker Tournament - 2023 was held at Indoor Billiard and Snooker courts in Colombo on 14 October 2023.

This was organised by the Sri Lanka Army Billiard & Snooker Association.

Lance Corporal M M Mubin of the Sri Lanka Army was adjudged the Champion in the National Masters Snooker Tournament - 2023.



FRIENDLY VOLLEYBALL MATCH AT 51 INFANTRY DIVISION

Troops of the 51 Infantry Division organised a volleyball match between the Yogapuram Girls' volleyball team and 7 Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps volleyball team on 17 October 2023 at the 51 Infantry Division's CIMIC park playground in Jaffna.

A large gathering of volleyball fans in the area along with women soldiers of the 7 Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps, Officers and Other Ranks witnessed the game. After a close tussle, the Yogapuram Girls' Volleyball team won the match and received the trophy and incentives.





Why did the scarecrow win an award?

Because he was outstanding in his field!



Parallel lines have so much in common.

It's a shame they'll never meet.



Sudoku Puzzle QUESTION

How to Play

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

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

BELLATOR



DIRECTOR

Major General
KMPSB Kulatunga RSP ndc psc



EDITOR

Captain
KVN Lakmali SLAGSC

COMPUTER FONTS, COVER DESIGN AND PAGE LAYOUT

S/ 752158 WO11 Senarathna GC - 3 CES
S/ 753797 Cpl Kumarasinghe MGAM - 11 CES
S/ 754676 L/Cpl Lakthilina WR - 11 CES

BELLATOR ADDRESS

Bellator
Directorate of Psychological Operations
Army Headquarters
Sri Jayawardenepura, Sri Lanka.

EMAIL

dtepsyops@army.lk
ranaviruwa@yahoo.com

TELEPHONE

+ 94 011 2993076

READ ONLINE



PUBLICATION

Directorate of Psychological Operations
Sri Lanka Army

LONG RANGE PATROL COURSE NO. 18 SUCCESSFULLY CULMINATED

Two Officers and hundred and nine commandos, received Long Range Patrol (LRP) insignia on 3rd October 2023 at 3 Commando Regiment - Vavuniya during a glamorous dusk ceremony. Major General P G P S Rathnayaka RWP RSP ndc, General Officer Commanding – 53 Infantry Division and Colonel of the Regiment - Commando Regiment graced the LRP graduation ceremony as the Chief Guest. The dusk ceremony colored with pinning of LRP badges and awarding LRP knife to the newly graduated Commandos.

Special awards were awarded for the Best LRP student and Best Navigator to Lieutenant M S Isuranga and the Best 8 Men Team of the course to A104 team. The passing out parade of Long Range Patrol Course No. 18 was successfully passed out on 03 October 2023 at Parade ground of 3 Commando Regiment.



CANDIDATES OF THE SPECIAL FORCES' BASIC COURSE NO. 54 PASSED OUT



7 Officers and 113 Other Ranks, who had undergone an intense nine-month Basic Training Course, of Special Forces' Basic Course No. 54 at the Special Forces' Training School (SFTS) in Maduru Oya graduated on 21 October 2023.

Major General J P C Peiris RWP RSP ndc, Colonel of the Regiment Special Forces and General Officer Commanding, 57 Infantry Division, graced the passing out parade as the Chief Guest at the invitation of Brigadier R P S Prasad RWP RSP USP, the Center Commandant of the Special Forces Regimental Centre, and amidst the greeting Colonel D S Horawalavithana WWV RWP RSP, Commandant, Special Forces' Training School. Awards were presented to the outstanding participants of the Course. Second Lieutenant I K G S D Bandara was recognised as the Best in Physical Fitness and the Best Student in Tactics. The title of Best Shooter was awarded to Second Lieutenant H M S Thushan, and Second Lieutenant R W D S Walikubura was honored as the Best Student in the Special Forces' Basic Course No 54. General Officer Commanding, of 11, 23 and 58 Infantry Divisions, Commandant, Sri Lanka Military Academy, Director General Movement and Commander Special Forces Brigade participated in the ceremony.

GATEWAY OF THE PRIDE

Everyone who humbly entered here remained unwavering in their commitment to safeguard this nation with their lives. This enduring dedication holds true for both the annals of history and the present, as well as the future. Embrace your role with pride as a vibrant member of the dedicated and honourable youth passing through this significant gateway.

