



# BELLATOR

R A N A V I R U W A



## CIMIC Park

Unveiled Blooming a New Hope for All!





# Memorial Oration of Legendary Warrior



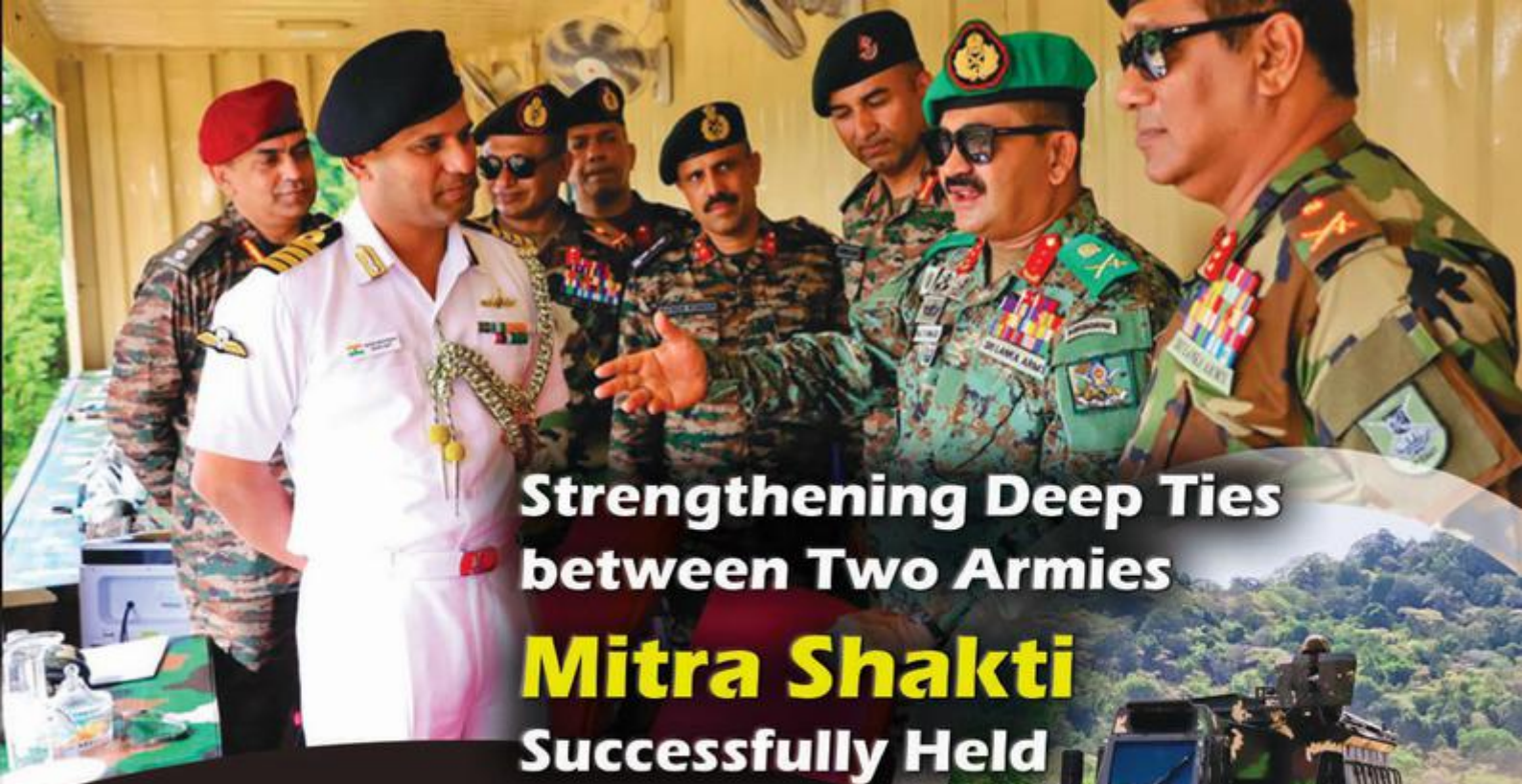
The inaugural Memorial Oration dedicated to Late Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa RWP RSP VSV USP rcds psc, organised by the Sri Lanka Armoured Corps (SLAC) was held at the Cavalry Mess on 09 August 2024.

General G D H Kamal Gunaratne (Rtd) WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc MPhil, Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, graced the event as the Chief Guest together with Mrs Laly Kobbekaduwa, the spouse of Late Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa as a Guest of Honour at the invitation of Major General S W M Fernando WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc, Colonel Commandant of the SLAC. General Shavendra Silva WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil, the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) and Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army also attended the event.

The ceremony commenced with the lighting of the traditional oil lamp, symbolising the spirit of remembrance and respect, followed by a solemn tribute to the fallen War Heroes laying the floral wreaths at the War Heroes' monument and following a two-minute silence in honour of their ultimate sacrifice. Major General S W M Fernando WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc, Colonel Commandant of the SLAC, then delivered the welcome address, which included an enlightening overview of the SLAC's distinguished history and achievements, supported by a comprehensive video presentation.

After the Regimental March, the Chief Guest addressed the assembled dignitaries, highlighting the enduring legacy and profound contributions of the late Lieutenant General Kobbekaduwa RWP RSP VSV USP rcds psc, to the Nation. The Guest of Honour, aftermath spoke on the unwavering service and supreme sacrifice of this legendary military leader. A special video presentation further illuminated the invaluable service rendered by the late War Hero. The memorial oration was delivered by Major General N R Marambe (Retd) RWP RSP USP psc, offering a poignant reflection on the leadership, strategic insight, and battlefield courage of the late Lieutenant General Kobbekaduwa RWP RSP VSV USP rcds psc.





## Strengthening Deep Ties between Two Armies

# Mitra Shakti Successfully Held

The final demonstration of Exercise 'Mitra Shakti X-2024,' a bilateral military exercise between the Armies of Sri Lanka and India concluded successfully on 23 August 2024 at the Maduru Oya Army Training School (ATS) grounds. The event was graced by Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Sri Lanka Army.

This exercise was meticulously designed to strengthen the bonds of goodwill and cooperation between the armed forces of two nations. The joint – military exercise featured comprehensive theoretical and practical training, providing a strong emphasis on counter-terrorism measures. Exercise 'Mitra Shakti' plays a pivotal role in enhancing the operational capabilities of the participating troops, fostering mutual understanding, and strengthening their ability to conduct coordinated operations across a wide array of scenarios, including conventional warfare and counter-terrorism.

The collaboration during this exercise facilitated the exchange of tactical knowledge, strategic insights, and best practices, while improving the readiness and adaptability of both forces. Moreover, it reinforced military diplomacy and strengthened defence ties between India and Sri Lanka.

The Indian Army contingent, led by Colonel Ravinda Ahlawat, actively participated in the exercise. Honourable Premitha Bandara Tennakoon, State Minister of Defence, graced the event as the Chief Guest. His Excellency Santosh Jha, the Indian High Commissioner, Senior Officers, as well as Officers and Other Ranks from both Armies attended the event.







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# Army Commander Honours Commando Graduates in Grand Ceremony



The Commando Regiment Training School (CRTS) in Uva-Kudaoya held the prestigious Passing Out Parade (POP) of the Commando Course 51 on 03 August 2024. A total of 131 personnel, including 06 Officers and 125 Other Ranks, successfully completed the rigorous course, marking a significant milestone in their military careers. Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest together with Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, the President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU) at the invitation of Major General P G P S Rathnayake RWP RSP ndc, Commander 1 Corps, and Colonel of the Regiment of Commando Regiment.





During the ceremony, the parents and next of kin of the Officers and Other Ranks pinned Commando badges on graduates as a symbolic gesture of recognising their perseverance and achievement. Following this, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army, along with Major General P G P S Rathnayake RWP RSP ndc, Commander of 1 Corps and Colonel of the Regiment of the Commando Regiment, Senior Officers, presented the Maroon Berets and special awards for the graduates.

Lieutenant G C D Kariyawasam was awarded the title of Best Commando and the Best Shooter award was earned by Lieutenant E D C De Soya, while Private Kumara P K K S was recognised as the Best Student in Physical Training, reflecting their outstanding physical endurance and performances.

After the parade formalities, a band display and rappelling demonstration took place grabbing the attention of all. A sniper demonstration, a display of special equipment used by Commandos, demonstration of Reality Based Self Defence (Commando Real Fighting System), VIP Protection, Hostage Rescue and Combatting Rescue, Commando dog (K9) handling, and Free-fall parachute display staged at parachute dropping zone of CRTS showcasing their untiring strength, endurance, military skills, and unprecedented fighting capabilities.

Interacting with newly graduated Commandos and their families, the Commander of the Army inspected the Construction Site at the Commando Confident Jump area.

Major General S P A I M B Samarakoon Hdmc Lsc, Deputy Chief of Staff and Major General B K G M L Rodrigo RSP psc IG, Commander of Security Forces (Central), Venerable Maha Sangha, Principal Staff Officers, Officers of the Tri-forces, Police Officers, relatives, and friends of Commando graduates witnessed the impressive event.





## Army Commander Commends Sri Lanka Women's Cricket Team Members

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army invited all members of the Sri Lanka Women's Cricket Team who represented the Sri Lanka Army in the Asia Cup to his office on 05 August 2024.

The sportswomen, Staff Sergeant Dasanayake D M S M K, Staff Sergeant Kulasooriya W G A K, Staff Sergeant Silva N N D of the 2 Sri Lanka Women's Corps (SLAWC), and Corporal Sanjeevani M A A of the 3 SLAWC, were honoured for their outstanding performance in the tournament.

During the meeting, the Army Commander expressed his congratulations to the team, acknowledging their remarkable achievements. He presented each member with incentives and mementos, commending their dedication, hard work, and perseverance in bringing pride to the Sri Lanka Army through their exceptional sporting talents.



## Army Commander Inaugurates New Gymnasium at 553 Infantry Brigade

In celebration of the upcoming 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sri Lanka Army, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army, officially inaugurated an indoor gymnasium at the 553 Infantry Brigade premises on 25 August 2024.



Major General M G W W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc, Commander of Security Forces (Jaffna), directed the project and Major General R K N C Jayawardene RSP ndc, General Officer Commanding, 55 Infantry Division, and Colonel W A I S Mendis RSP USP, Commander, 553 Infantry Brigade supervised the project.

The newly established gymnasium aims to enhance the physical fitness and overall well-being of Army personnel stationed within the Brigade. Senior Officers, Officers, and Other Ranks attended the inauguration.





# Army Commander Presents 'Copra' for Sri Dalada Perahera Illuminations



Continuing its deep rooted tradition, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army donated sixteen tons of dried coconuts (copra) for the illumination of the Sri Dalada Perahera on 1 August 2024, marking the eleventh consecutive year of this contribution while gracing the event as the Chief Guest.

This initiative was primarily undertaken by the Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment with the assistance of other regiments, aiming to fulfill the religious requirements of the Sri Dalada Maligawa (Temple of the Tooth).

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army and Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU), received a warm welcome from Major General S R B Aluvihare RWP RSP ndu psc, Chief of Staff and Colonel of the Regiment, Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment, and Major General B K G M L Rodrigo RSP psc IG, Commander of Security Forces (Central). The Commander of the Army later met Mr. Pradeep Nilanga Dela, the Chief Custodian of Sri Dalada Maligawa, and took part in religious observances.





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## PALMYRA CHALLENGE TROPHY CRICKET - 2024

JAFFNA GENIUSES VS KILINOCCHI GENIUSES



## Commander of the Army Graces Events at Security Force Headquarters (Jaffna)

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army, graced the second league of the Palmyra Club Challenge Trophy Cricket Encounter as the Chief Guest at the invitation of Major General M G W W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc, Commander, Security Forces (Jaffna) on 24 August 2024 at the Central College Ground in Jaffna. The event, coordinated by Security Forces (Jaffna) in collaboration with the District Secretaries of Jaffna and Kilinochchi, aimed to foster camaraderie in the community.

The Kilinochchi Geniuses team emerged victorious in the match and the Commander of the Army presented the prizes and the 'Palmyra Club Challenge Trophy' to the winning team. Commander of the North Naval Command, Senior Deputy Inspector General of Police of the North, and a large number of military and civilian community members witnessed the tournament. The event concluded with a lunch organised by the 51 Infantry Division. Later in the day, the Commander of the Army, along with Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU), inaugurated the newly constructed Multi-Sport Court in Palaly by the Army troops, which includes facilities for netball, and more. Afterward, the Commander of the Army conducted a visit on CIMIC park at the premises. The day concluded with distribution of stationary packs to school children by the President of ASVU.







## Commander of the Army Bestows a House for a Deserving Family at Evenai

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army, handed over a newly constructed house to Mrs. Suganya in Evenai, Jaffna on 25 August 2024.

15 Sri Lanka National Guard (SLNG) constructed the house extending their manpower with the financial generosity of Mr. Sumi Sinnaiya and his family and the Wanni Aid Canada Association. Major General Ravi Rathnasingam (Retd) coordinated the project.

Major General M G W W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc, Commander, Security Forces (Jaffna), Major General W B J K Wimalaratne RWP RSP, General Officer Commanding, 51 Infantry Division, Brigadier B A D R A C Wijesekara RSP USACGSC, Commander, 511 Infantry Brigade, Senior Officers, Government Officials and civilians attended the inauguration.



## Army Commander Inaugurates CIMIC Park in Kilinochchi



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 officially inaugurated the "CIMIC Park Kilinochchi" on 25 August 2024. This significant initiative designed by the 55 Infantry Division was aimed to meet the educational needs of the Kilinochchi community, offering essential resources and support to local students and educational institutions.

The park is equipped with an array of facilities creating an enhanced learning environment, including free Wi-Fi, study areas, washrooms, purified water, and a stable power supply. Following the ceremonial opening, the Commander of the Army along with other distinguished guests, inspected the facilities and engaged in warm interactions with the children present. During the visit, the Commander of the Army also distributed gift packs among the students.

The CIMIC Park project was initially conceptualised by the Commander of Security Forces (Jaffna) and was brought to completion under the leadership of the General Officer Commanding, 55 Infantry Division, with the direct supervision of Colonel D K C L Perera RWP USP psc, Commander of the 551 Infantry Brigade. The construction of the CIMIC Park Kilinochchi was made possible through the dedicated efforts and technical expertise of troops from the 7 Sri Lanka Light Infantry, 11 Engineer Services Regiment and 11 (V) Gajaba Regiment.

Major General P G P S Rathnayake RWP RSP ndc, Commander 1 Corps, Senior Officers, Officers, Other Ranks, as well as teachers, students, and members of the local community participated in the event.





Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army, inaugurated and vested a newly constructed house for a deserving family in Dharmapuram, Kilinochchi on 25 August 2024 during a simple house warming ceremony.

The troops of 6 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment (SLSR) and 14 Sri Lanka National Guard (SLNG) extended their manpower and technical expertise for the project. Mr. Nihal Dharmabandu and his family extended much required financial generosity for the project.

Major General M G W W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc, Commander, Security Forces (Jaffna), provided much required guidance for the project. Major General R K N C Jayawardena RSP ndc, General Officer Commanding, 55 Infantry Division directed the project and Colonel W A I S Mendis RSP USP, Commander, 553 Infantry Brigade supervised the project. Troops of 6 SLSR and 14 SLNG extended their manpower and technical expertise for the project and assured the completion within the allocated period of time.



## Army Commander Inaugurates New Home for Needy Family in Kilinochchi



## Workshop on Procurement Process for Officers of Army Headquarters

A two-day workshop on the procurement process was held for Officers at Army Headquarters on 24 and 25 July 2024. The workshop was conducted by the School of Ordnance in collaboration with the Directorate of Training under the guidance of Major General S A N D Edirisinghe RWP RSP Hdmc psc, Director General General Staff.

The workshop was inaugurated with opening remarks by Major General S R B Aluvihare RWP RSP ndu psc, Chief of Staff and Brigadier B R A Jayarathna USP ATO, Director of Directorate of Ordnance explained the aim of conducting the session.

Colonel V D Varusawithana, Lieutenant Colonel W S D Fernando Lsc ATO, Lieutenant Colonel S D Rangage USP Lsc ATO and Major K M T R Ulapane USP psc ATO conducted the lectures. 96 Officers in GSO I and GSO II levels serving in Army Headquarters took part in the session. The session covered the topics such as introduction to the procurement process, tender calling notices, bidding documents, tender guidelines, evaluation of bidders, and an introduction to e-GP.







## Montana State National Guard Senior Leaders Meet Army Commander



A delegation consisted of four senior leaders from Montana State National Guard (MTNG), led by Major General Peter J Hronek, the Adjutant General of Montana, met Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Sri Lanka Army, at Army Headquarters on 07 August 2024. The meeting focused on strengthening military relations and enhancing mutual security cooperation. The discussions centered on developing collaborative plans to improve humanitarian assistance and disaster relief efforts between the Montana State National Guard and the Sri Lanka Army.



## Korean New Defence Attaché Meets Commander of the Army



Lieutenant Colonel Han Jong-hun, the newly appointed Defence Attaché of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea to Sri Lanka paid a courtesy call on Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army on 07 August 2024 at the Army Headquarters. The Defence Attaché, during his interactive meeting with the Commander of the Army, expressed his appreciation of the work, being fulfilled by the Army across the country for the best interest of the country. The Army Commander recalling sound relations that prevail between two countries for generations stressed the requirement to further enhance cooperation in the future, too.

## Army Commander Pays Last Tribute to Most Venerable Galaboda Gnanissara Thero



Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army along with Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit attended the state honoured final rites of the Most Venerable Galaboda Gnanissara Thero on 05 August 2024 at the Hunupitiya Gangaramaya Temple.





## **Veteran Singer Dr. Sujatha Aththanayaka Meets Jaffna Commander**



Veteran singer Dr. Sujatha Aththanayaka visited Jaffna and met Major General M G W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc, the Commander, Security Forces (Jaffna) on 05 August 2024 at his office. Dr. Aththanayaka also performed at a musical evening held at the CIMIC Park in Palaly, organised to honour her late son, Captain A M C S Aththanayaka of Sri Lanka Light Infantry. The event was attended by both military personnel and civilians. In recognition of her visit and contribution, the Commander, Security Forces (Jaffna) presented Dr. Sujatha Aththanayaka a special memento as a token of appreciation.

## **32<sup>nd</sup> Commemoration of Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa**



The 32<sup>nd</sup> commemoration of legendary military leaders including Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa RWP RSP VSV USP rcds psc and several other War Heroes who sacrificed their lives for the betterment of the motherland at Araly Point on 8 August 1992 took place on 8 August 2024 with the participation of many Officers and Other Ranks at the Araly Point Monument in Kayts.

Major General M G W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc, the Commander, Security Forces (Jaffna), honoured the occasion as the Chief Guest, alongside several Senior Officers from the Tri-Services. The commemoration was organised under the supervision of Major General W B J K Wimalaratne RWP RSP, General Officer Commanding of the 51 Infantry Division.

Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa, accompanied by a team of military commanders, including Major General Vijaya Wimalaratne RWP RSP psc, Rear Admiral Mohan Jayamaha RWP RSP USP, Colonel HP Stephen psc, Colonel GH Ariyaratne RWP RSP, Colonel Y N Palipana RWP RSP, Commander Asanga Lankathilaka, Lieutenant Colonel Nalin de Alwis, Lieutenant Commander C B Wijepura and Corporal Wickramaratne WJ sacrificed their lives while they were on a military assignment in Araly, Jaffna.

Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks participated in the commemoration.





## Assistant Defence Advisor of the High Commission of India Meets Commander, SF (East)



Lieutenant Colonel Mandeep Singh Negi, Assistant Defence Advisor of the High Commission of India to Sri Lanka, paid a courtesy call to Major General S A Kulatunge RWP RSP VSV USP psc, the Commander of Security Forces (East) on 01 August 2024.

During their cordial meeting, they discussed the importance of strengthening bilateral relationships and military diplomacy to enhance the bond between the two nations. The conversation also covered civil-military cooperation, social welfare projects, and development assistance in the Eastern area.



## Distribution of School Accessories



Troops from the 12 Gemunu Watch (GW) conducted a school supplies distribution initiative at the Aralaganwila Mahaweli Prathibha Auditorium on 19 July 2024, aiming at aiding students facing financial hardships. During this event, a total of 165 students were provided with essential school accessories.

The Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch further generously provided lunch for teachers, parents, and students who attended the event.

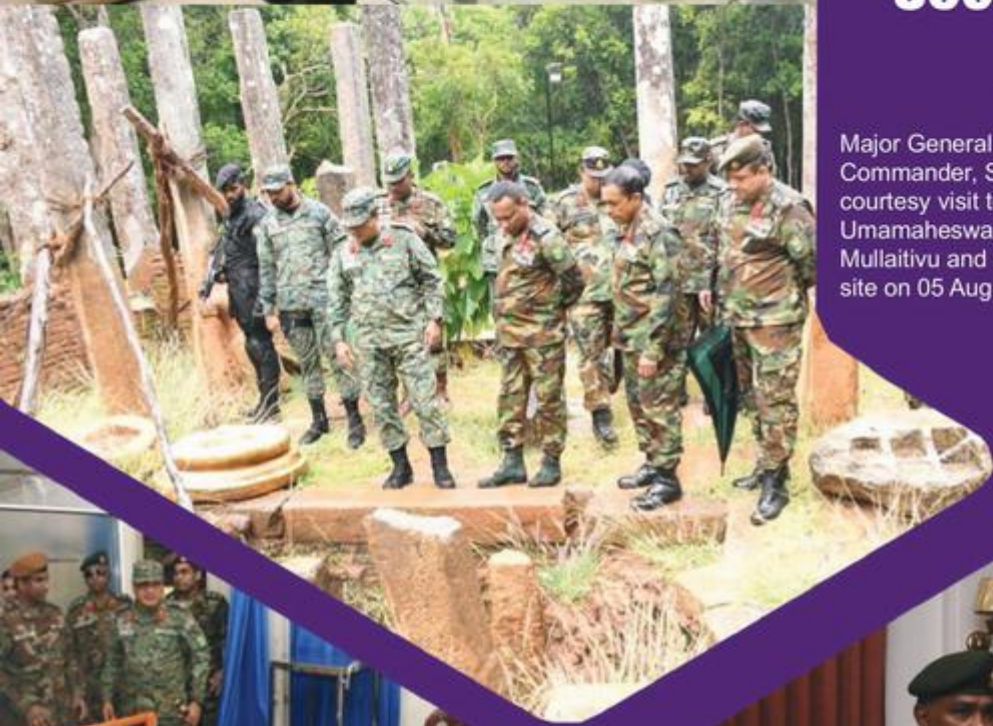
Major General S A Kulatunge RWP RSP VSV USP psc, the Commander, Security Forces (East), graced the event as the Chief Guest. Dr. Sanjeewa Rajapaksha, Mr. Jaliya Bodinnagoda, Mr. Hiranda Silva, and Mr. Vipula Perera extended the financial generosity for the event.





## Visits of Commander- Security Forces (Wanni)

Major General J P C Peiris RWP RSP ndc, the Commander, Security Forces (Wanni), paid a courtesy visit to District Secretary Mullaitivu, Mr A Umamaheswaran at the District Secretariat Office Mullaitivu and visited Kurundumale archeological site on 05 August 2024.



Major General J P C Peiris RWP RSP ndc, Commander, Security Forces (Wanni), after his duty assumption, visited the Headquarters of Forward Maintenance Area (FMA) Mullaitivu and its under-command Battalions on 06 August 2024. Accordingly, Commander, Security Forces (Wanni) visited under-command Battalions to Security Force Headquarters (Wanni) and Army Base Hospital, Mullaitivu. Colonel D B C Jayasinghe RSP psc, the Commander - FMA, along with the Commanding Officers warmly welcomed Commander, Security Forces (Wanni). After the discussion with the Officers, Commander, Security Forces (Wanni) addressed the troops. Senior Officers, Officers, and Other Ranks participated in the event.





Major General B K G M L Rodrigo RSP psc IG, newly appointed Commander of Security Forces (Central), paid his first official visit to the 12 Infantry Division Area of Responsibility (AOR) on 06 and 07 August 2024. Troops of 12 Infantry Division together with the General Officer Commanding (GOC), 12 Infantry Division warmly welcomed the Commander of Security Forces (Central) according the Guard Turnout at the entrance by troops of 12 Battalion of Gajaba Regiment. After addressing the troops, Commander, Security Forces (Central) joined the all –ranks tea and shared his thoughts with the troops.

Further, he paid a visit to Chief Incumbent of Wedasitikanda Temple, 121 and 122 Infantry Brigades and 20th Battalion of Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment.



Major General P G P S Rathnayaka RWP RSP ndc, Commander 1 Corps, made his first official visit to the 58 Infantry Division, 583 Infantry Brigade, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, the Gajaba Regiment (GR) on 22 July 2024. Addressing the troops, Commander, 1 Corps highlighted the importance of maintaining peace, security, and high standards through training and discipline. Further, he instructed the Officers to ensure the wellbeing of the soldiers and inspected the readiness of the Riot Control Platoons and their equipment. Senior Officers, Officers, and Other Ranks participated in the visit.







## 32<sup>nd</sup> Commemoration of Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa

The 32<sup>nd</sup> commemoration of Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa was held on 08 August 2024 at the General's statue in Anuradhapura with the participation of Major General S W M Fernando WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc, Commander of the Security Forces (West) and Colonel Commandant of the Sri Lanka Armoured Corps (SLAC). The anniversary celebration was initiated with the religious observances and Mrs. Lali Kobbekaduwa – beloved spouse of Late Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa and his family members, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks participated in at the event.

## DIG for Sabaragamuwa and Uva Calls on Security Force Headquarters (Central)



Deputy Inspector General of Police for the Badulla Range, Sujith Wedamulla, paid a courtesy call on Major General B K G M L Rodrigo RSP psc IG, Commander, Security Forces (Central) on 23 July 2024. During their cordial meeting, they discussed strategies to enhance security and sustain peace in the region.





## Relaunching of "Creators Forge" at Habarakada



Relaunching of 'Creators Forge' - a show room of souvenir and art work of Engineer Services Central Workshop (ESCWKSP), Habarakada took place on 15 August 2024. Major General I A N B Perera RWP USP ndu psc, Military Secretary of the Sri Lanka Army and Colonel Commandant, Corps of Engineer Services graced the relaunching ceremony of "Creator Forge" attending as the Chief Guest.

## The "West Cottage" Holiday Bungalow Declared Open



Major General I A N B Perera RWP USP ndu psc, Military Secretary of the Sri Lanka Army and the Colonel Commandant Corps of Engineer Services declared open the new cottage, "The West Cottage" at "Pearl Edge Palindanuwara" holiday bungalow of Corps of Engineer Services on 15 August 2024. The 4<sup>th</sup> (Volunteer) Engineer Services Regiment contributed to the construction of new cottage.

## Newly Repaired Water Purification System at Thaulwewa Vested for Public



Newly repaired water purification system at Thaulwewa Army Camp under the fullest supervision of Commander, 223 Infantry Brigade and Commanding Officer of 6 Sri Lanka Armoured Corps vested for public on 17 August 2024. The 6 Sri Lanka Armoured Corps provided manpower assistance, while the Sri Lanka Navy contributed technical expertise. Mr. Atula Eliyapura, Managing Director of Raja Jewelers - Bambalapitiya, and his staff provided much required financial sponsorship for the success of the project. Major General P A M Peiris RSP USP psc, General Officer Commanding, 22 Infantry Division attending as the Chief Guest inaugurated the repaired water purification system. Senior Officers, Officers, Other Ranks, school students, and local villagers attended the event.





## General Officer Commanding - 21 Infantry Division Visits Under Command Formations



Major General W M S C K Wanasinghe RSP USP newly appointed General Officer Commanding, 21 Infantry Division visited the 212 Infantry Brigade and its under command battalions including 7 (V) Sri Lanka Armoured Corps and 4 Sri Lanka National Guard on 15 July 2024. Brigadier R M C Rathnayaka RWP RSP USP Commander, 212 Infantry Brigade, Commanding Officers of 7 (V) Sri Lanka Armoured Corps and 4 Sri Lanka National Guard, Officers and Other Ranks participated in the visit.

## Inspection Visit of Commander of Logistics Command



Major General E M M Fernando Hdmc Lsc AATO, Commander of Logistics Command, conducted an inspection visit to the Corps of Engineer Services (CES) on 07 August 2024. During his inspection, Commander of Logistics Command focused on assessing the Regiment's preparedness for both current and future operational demands and shared his thoughts with Officers and Other Ranks on recent developments addressing concerns related to logistics and engineering operations. Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks participated in the event.

## Basic Disaster Response Training Course No. 23 Successfully Culminated at SLACDRT



The Basic Disaster Response Training Course No. 23 concluded on 14 August 2024 at the Sri Lanka Army Centre for Disaster Response Training (SLACDRT), Gampola. This training course was conducted from 08 July 2024 to 14 August 2024 with the participation of 06 Officers and 197 Other Ranks. The First in Order of Merit was awarded to Second Lieutenant J L P Irundika of the Sri Lanka National Guard. Colonel R M H P K Rathnayake, Commandant of SLACDRT delivered the closing address marking the culmination of the event.





## ATS Hosts Passing Out Parade for CIJW and SIO Course Graduates



The Passing Out Parade of 56 Officers and 246 Other Ranks from the Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare (CIJW) Officers Course No. 34, Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare (Other Ranks) Course No. 37, and the Special Infantry Operations (SIO) Course No. 75 was held on 31 July 2024 at the Army Training School, Maduruoya. Major General S W B Welagedara RSP VSV USP ndc, Director General Infantry and Colonel of the Regiment of the Gemunu Watch, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and awarded the badges for the Officers and Other Ranks who successfully completed the course.

## NCOs' Leadership & Career Development Course - 57 at CTS Marked its Culmination



The certificates awarding ceremony of Non-Commissioned Officers' 'Leadership and Career Development' Course - 57 at the Combat Training School (CTS) in Ampara concluded on 17 August 2024. Major General D R N Hettiarachchi RWP RSP USP, Commandant of CTS, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. 44 Non-Commissioned Officers from various Regiments in the Army attended the one-month residential course at CTS. Lance Corporal K M B Dilshan of the 11 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment was recognised as the Best Student of the course. The Chief Instructor of CTS, Senior Officers, Officers, and Other Ranks participated in the ceremony.





## Director General Finance Management Visits Directorate of Internal Audit



Major General A H L G Amarapala RWP RSP ndc psc, Director General Financial Management Branch and Colonel Commandant of Corps of Sri Lanka Engineers visited Directorate of Internal Audit on 21 August 2024. During the visit Chartered Accountant Colonel O R Rajasinghe, Director of Internal Audit and Director General Financial Management Branch discussed the progress of execution of approved annual audit plan and related matters.

## An Educative Lecture on Reducing Gender-Based Violence Held at SLAPC



An educative lecture addressing the reduction of gender-based violence against women was held at 2 Sri Lanka Army Pioneer Corps on 31 July 2024. Chief Inspector Yesmin Raani, Officer in Charge of the Child and Women's Bureau at Athurugiriya Police Station conducted the interactive session. The programme was organised with the aim of promoting equality and justice within government institutions. 06 Officers and 89 Other Ranks participated in the session.

## A Lecture Regarding Timely Challenges, Strategies, and Common Legal Issues



Following the directions of Major General S W M Fernando RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc, Commander of Security Forces (West), the Directorate of Legal Services, Human Rights, and Humanitarian Law organised a lecture at the Army Gymnasium Panagoda on 16 August 2024. The lecture covered various topics, including timely challenges, strategies for overcoming them, the expected behaviour of Army personnel during election periods, issues related to illegal drugs and activities were discussed. Mr. K S Harshan Perera, Attorney-at-Law conducted the session. 50 Officers and 1400 Other Ranks from the under-command divisions, brigades, battalions, and regimental centres within the Army Cantonment Panagoda participated in the programme.





## The 16<sup>th</sup> Colonel Commandant of the Corps of Engineer Services Assumes Duties



Major General K A N Rasika Kumara ndc psc, the Director General Media and Psychological Operations and the Media Spokes Person of the Sri Lanka Army assumed duties as the 16<sup>th</sup> Colonel Commandant of the Corps of Engineer Services (CES) on 20 August 2024. Brigadier K L Munasinghe USP, Centre Commandant CES warmly welcomed the 16<sup>th</sup> Colonel Commandant of the Corps of Engineer Services extending a warm welcome following a military formalities extending a Guard of Honour. After accepting the a Guard Turnout, 16<sup>th</sup> Colonel Commandant of the Corps of Engineer Services (CES) paid tribute for the fallen War Heroes laying of a floral wreath at the War Heroes' s monument and assumed the duties amidst religious blessings. After appearing for a group photograph, 16<sup>th</sup> Colonel Commandant of the Corps of Engineer Services addressed the Officers and Other Ranks, highlighting his scope of work and duties in the days to come. The event culminated with All-Ranks tea.



## Troops Complete Motorboat Training for Effective Flood Rescue Operations



A Special Basic Outboard Motor Boat and Oar Boat Training Course was organised for 68 Officers and Other Ranks under the guidance of Major General K H M S Wikramaratne RSP, General Officer Commanding 61 Infantry Division. The training was conducted in two phases at the Army Engineers' Training School in Embilipitiya from 5 August 2024 to 13 August 2024. This course aimed to educate participants with essential motorboat operation skills, particularly for handling flood situations and assisting in search and rescue operations during natural disasters. Upon completion, participants were awarded certificates.

## 2 (V) SLAMC Celebrates 143<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary



The 143<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of 2 (V) Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps (SLAMC) was successfully held under the patronage of Lieutenant Colonel K D P De A Wijesinghe, Commanding Officer, 2(V) Sri Lanka Medical Corps with a series of events. The anniversary celebrations initiated presenting the Guard Turnout and Parade to Commanding Officer, 2(V) Sri Lanka Medical Corps. Paying tribute to the War Heores's Monument, All rank address, planting saplings, All-rank lunch, Bhodhi Pooja and donating lunch and school accessories to Bosath Orpahange at Meegoda also took place in line with the anniversary. Commanding Officer of 2 (V) SLAMC, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks of 2 (V) SLAMC joined the event.





## Delicious Lunch for Dhamma School Students at Ananda Viharaya



The troops of 6 (RFT) Armoured Corps organised a delicious lunch treat on behalf of Dhamma School students at Ananda Viharaya, Galkadawala on 11 August 2024. Major General P A M Peiris RSP USP psc, General Officer Commanding, 22 Infantry Division and his family members extended their fullest assistance for the success of the programme. At the end of the programme, all Dhamma School students also received school accessories in support of their education. Commander of 223 Infantry Brigade, Commanding Officer of 6 (RFT) Armoured Corps, Officers and Other Ranks participated in the programme

## Commander, Security Forces (East) Awarded the Prefect Badges for Students



Brigadier L H M Rajapaksha RWP RSP, Project Officer of Security Forces (East) graced the prefect badge awarding ceremony at Sevanapitiya, Nelumwewa Maha Vidyalaya on 09 August 2024 as the Chief guest. Accordingly, 45 students awarded the prefect badges during the ceremony. Senior Officers, school staff and parents attended the event.



## Lunch Treat from 11 Field Engineer Regiment

The troops of the 11 Field Engineer Regiment provided lunch to the children of Lakdaru Preschool, Nawaatkuli on 25 July 2024 under the guidance of Lieutenant Colonel K G C K Kudagamage, Commanding Officer of the Sri Lanka Engineers (SLE) on 25 July 2024. This act of hospitality was highly appreciated by the children, teachers, and parents of the Lakdaru Preschool.



## 24 Infantry Division Hosts Baseball Coaching Camp in Ampara



24 Infantry Division organised a Baseball Coaching Camp at the Division Headquarters on 16 August 2024 under the guidance of Major General W L A C Perera RWP RSP USP, General Officer Commanding of the 24 Infantry Division and Chairman of the Sri Lanka Army Baseball Committee. The camp was aimed to enhance the knowledge of the players on essential techniques and coaching strategies. Mr. Sujeewa Wijayanayake, Deputy Umpire Director of the Baseball Federation of Asia and Head of the International Development Baseball Federation – Japan, conducted the programme. During the closing ceremony, Mr. Wijayanayake donated baseball equipment worth over one million rupees to the participating school instructors. Over 30 Physical Training Instructors and Coaches from selected schools in the Ampara Educational Zone, Mrs. S R Hasanathi, Zonal Educational Director of Ampara were present at the occasion.

## 24 Infantry Division Conducts Leadership Training Programme



A leadership programme was successfully held for 96 students of AM/Uhana Primary School and AM/Sri Sumangala Vidyalaya on 15 August 2024 under the guidance of Major General W L A C Perera RWP RSP USP, General Officer Commanding of the 24 Infantry Division. The programme aimed to instill basic leadership qualities, empowering students to become confident, responsible, and effective future leaders. Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks from the 24 Infantry Division, principals and teaching staff of the schools attended the event.

## 22 Infantry Division Conducts a Medical Clinic for Children



A medical clinic was conducted for 29 girls and three wardens at the Revatha Children's Home in Trincomalee on 18 August 2024. Following the clinic, refreshments were provided for all the participants. The medical clinic was held under the guidance of Major General P A M Peiris RSP USP psc, General Officer Commanding, 22 Infantry Division, and assistance from the troops of the 22 Infantry Division and Field Hospital, Trincomalee.





# 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 Child
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 Child
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 Child
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		16,000.00
	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 Child
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





# Seva Vanitha



## ASVU Distributes Essential Items



The Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU) distributed 500 dry ration packs among selected Army & Civil Personnel working at Security Forces (Jaffna), Security Forces (Wanni), Security Forces (East) and Security Forces (West) and (Central) on 05 August 2024 at ASVU office, Army Headquarters.

Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, the President, ASVU graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and distributed those relief packs among the recipients. Brigadier Coordinating of ASVU, Senior members of ASVU, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks were present at the occasion.

## ASVU Holds 40<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting



The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU) took place under the patronage of Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, the President of ASVU on 21 August 2024 at the Army Headquarters.

Addressing the members, the President of ASVU highlighted the future projects planned by the ASVU. Then, the President distributed a wheelchair to the disabled child of a retired Officer of the 12 Gemunu Watch and another wheelchair to the mother of a soldier from the Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment. Additionally, the wife of a Senior Non-Commissioned Officer from the Sri Lanka Signal Corps was donated a Juki sewing machine by the President to support her self-employment efforts.

Furthermore, Mrs. Chandi Rajapaksa, Chairperson of the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch (SLASC-SVB), handed over a sum of Rs. 200,000.00, earned from the Yoghurt Project maintained by SLASC-SVB, to the ASVU. Members of Army Seva Vanitha Unit and Regimental Army Seva Vanitha Branches participated in the Annual General Meeting.





## Annual General Meeting of Gajaba Seva Vanitha Branch



The Gajaba Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch's Annual General Meeting was held at the Army Headquarters on 07 August 2024. Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, the President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit graced the Annual General Meeting of Gajaba Seva Vanitha Branch and discussed basic matters pertaining to the welfare and other aspects. Further, it served as a platform to discuss future initiatives aimed at enhancing the well-being of Katerians' families. Members of Gajaba Seva Vanitha Branch participated in the Annual General Meeting.



## CES-SVB Hosts Scholarship Awarding Programme



Under the guidance and supervision of Mrs. Uditha Perera, Chairperson of Corps of Engineer Services Seva Vanitha Branch (CES - SVB), a scholarship awarding programme was held on 08 August 2024 at the Regimental Headquarters of CES. Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU), graced the event as the Chief Guest and awarded the scholarships for 34 outstanding students who excelled in the Advanced Level Examinations of 2022 and 2023.







## Sri Lanka Armoured Corps Seva Vanitha Branch

Members of the Sri Lanka Armoured Corps Seva Vanitha Branch (SLAC-SVB) visited Ranaviru Sevana, Ragama, on 06 August 2024, under the guidance of Mrs. Samangka Fernando, Chairperson of SLAC-SVB. The visit was aimed to inquire the well-being and the progress of residential War Heroes recuperation. After engaging in a cordial interaction with War Heroes, the Chairperson, along with members, offered refreshments to them. Additionally, the Chairperson donated cleaning supplies and equipment worth Rs. 50,000 to the rehabilitation center.



## Sri Lanka Light Infantry Seva Vanitha Branch

A donation programme was held on 10 August 2024 at the Sri Lanka Light Infantry Regimental Centre Lecture Hall under the guidance of Major General G M N Perera RWP RSP USP ndc, Quarter Master General and Colonel of the Regiment of the Sri Lanka Light Infantry (SLLI), with the supervision of Mrs. Vajira Perera, the Chairperson of the Sri Lanka Light Infantry Seva Vanitha Branch (SLLI-SVB).



The event featured the distribution of sports items to all SLLI Battalions to enhance the sport skills and abilities of the soldiers. Additionally, the SLLI-SVB made a generous donation of Rs. 200,000.00 to support the medical treatment of the spouse of a retired Officer. Senior Officers, Officers, Other Ranks and members of the SLLI-SVB participated in the event.

## Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch

The Annual General Meeting was held on 18 August 2024 at the Regimental Headquarters under the supervision of Mrs. Neluka Nanayakkara, Chairperson of the Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch (SLSR-SVB). Many War Heroes received the aids to complete their houses and medical equipment during the event. Members of SLSR-SVB and 150 Spouses of Other Ranks participated in the event.



## Gemunu Watch Seva Vanitha Branch

Under the guidance of the Chairperson of the Gemunu Watch Seva Vanitha Branch (GW-SVB), Mrs. Manori Welagedara, members of GW-SVB visited Apeksha Hospital (National Cancer Institute), Maharagama on 27 July 2024. During the visit, urgently required medicine and gift parcels worth Rs.500,000.00 were donated to the patients.







## Mechanized Infantry Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch

Following an initiative taken by Mrs. Priyanga Wickramasinghe, Chairperson of Mechanized Infantry Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch (MIR - SVB), 28 pregnant spouses of Other Ranks and civil employees received basic maternity essentials on 31 July 2024. Members of MIR - SVB, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks participated in the event.



## Special Forces Seva Vanitha Branch

The Annual General Meeting was held at 3rd Regiment of Special Forces under the guidance and supervision of Mrs. Anoja Pieris, the Chairperson of Special Forces Seva Vanitha Branch (SF-SVB) on 11 August 2024. After appointing the executive members for the Special Forces Seva Vanitha Branch, dry ration packs donated among the pregnant spouses and civil workers of 3 Special Forces. Additionally, Mrs. Chandani Bandara of 4ever Skin Naturals (Pvt) Ltd conducted an educative workshop.



## Military Intelligence Corps Seva Vanitha Branch

A milk packet distribution programme for 350 cancer and chemotherapy patients at Kandy Hospital was conducted on 08 August 2024 under the guidance of Mrs. Prasadini Ranasinhe, the Chairperson of the Military Intelligence Corps Seva Vanitha Branch (MIC-SVB). During the programme, 27 children at the Wattegama Child Development Center were provided with essential items and a delicious dinner by the members of MIC-SVB. Members of MIC-SVB and Officers participated in this event.



## Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch

The Annual General Meeting of Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch was held on 3 August 2024 under the guidance of Mrs. Chandi Rajapakse, Chairperson of the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch (SLASC-SVB) at Thisa Wewa. During the programme, school equipment was donated to the children of 5 SLASC soldiers, and dry ration packs were given to the civil staff working at 5 SLASC. Further, Major (Dr.) Shanika Halangoda, Acting Consultant on Chemical Pathology, conducted a lecture on 'Nutrition and Childhood Development'.







## Corps of Engineer Services Seva Vanitha Branch

Mrs. Anupama Rathnayake assumed duties as the Chairperson of the Corps of Engineer Services Seva Vanitha Branch (CES - SVB) on 22 August 2024 amidst religious rituals at the Regimental Headquarters, CES, Panagoda.



## Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps Seva Vanitha Branch

The Committee Meeting of the Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps Seva Vanitha Branch (SLAOC - SVB) took place on 27 July 2024, under the guidance of Mrs. Iresha Fernando, Chairperson of SLAOC - SVB. During the event, Chairperson and the Colonel Commandant of SLAOC, Major General E M M Fernando Hdmc Lsc AATO, inaugurated the Cinnamon Oil Extracting Project. Senior members of SLAOC - SVB, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks attended occasion.



## Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police Seva Vanitha Branch

A donation programme was organised by SLCMP-SVB together with 1 SLCMP at Ranaviru Sevana, Ragama, on 16 July 2024 under the supervision of Mrs. Manisha Kothalawala, Chairperson of the Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police Seva Vanitha Branch (SLCMP-SVB). During the event, essential sanitary items were donated to the resident War Heroes. The Chairperson and members of SLCMP-SVB offered a delicious lunch to the inmates and entertained them with music from the SLCMP Calypso Band, providing moments of joy and relaxation. Members of SLCMP-SVB, Senior Officers, Officers, and Other Ranks participated in the event.



## Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch

Mrs. Thushari Abeyasinghe, assumed the office as the new Chairperson of Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch, (SLAGSC-SVB) on 15 August 2024 at Regimental Headquarters.

Officers, Other Ranks and members of SLAGSC-SVB participated in the event.







## Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch

The Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch (SLACAL-SVB) conducted a prostheticlimbs donation programme at the Cultural Centre in Welikanda on 28 July 2024. The initiative, spearheaded by Mrs. Varuni Kulatunge, Chairperson of SLACAL-SVB, was supported by the Security Forces Headquarters (East), 23 Infantry Division, and the 7th Battalion Gemunu Watch. Major General S A Kulatunge RWP RSP VSV USP psc, Commander, Security Forces (East) and Colonel Commandant of SLACAL, graced the event as the Chief Guest.



The event benefited 26 differently-abled individuals, including five rehabilitated ex-LTTE cadres residing in Kokkadicholai, Batticaloa, Ampara, Padiyathalawa, Welikanda, Sinhapura, Punani, and Polonnaruwa. The project carried out under the guidance of Mrs. Varuni Kulatunge, Chairperson of SLACAL-SVB and with the financial support from the "Colombo Friends in Need" society, the Rotary Club of Capital City, Mr. Hemantha Aponso, Dr. Sanjeev Rajapaksha, and Mr. S M S Bandara.

## Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps Seva Vanitha Branch

The members of Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps Seva Vanitha Branch (SLAMC-SVB) visits Wilbert Perera Commemoration Elders' Home, Kaduwela on 10 August 2024 under the guidance of Mrs. Lilanthi Dolage, the chairperson of Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps Seva Vanitha Branch (SLAMC-SVB). During the visit, members of the Seva Vanitha Branch assisted to clean up the premises and presented needful sanitary items for the inmates. After a short while, a nutritious lunch was also provided for the elders. Dr.Mrs Namali Thilakarathna, the Vice President of SLAMC-SVB, and many officials also participated in the programme.



## Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps Seva Vanitha Branch

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps Seva Vanitha Branch (SLAWC-SVB) was held on 26 July 2024 under the guidance of Mrs. Udula Kasturimudali, the Chairperson of SLAWC-SVB. Major S V R A De Silva from Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps then delivered a comprehensive lecture on 'How to Improve the Ability to Control Emotions and Feelings' focusing on balancing military and family life. As part of the event, spectacles were donated to Civil Staff and Other Ranks of SLAWC.



## Sri Lanka Army Pioneer Corps Seva Vanitha Branch

A donation programme was conducted at the Sri Lanka Army Pioneer Corps on 27 July 2024 under the patronage of Mrs. H G Swarnalatha, Chairperson of the Sri Lanka Army Pioneer Corps Seva Vanitha Branch (SLAPC - SVB). The event aimed to provide uniform materials and school accessories to children entering Grade 1. Members of SLAPC - SVB, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks participated in the programme.







# Sri Lanka Military Academy

## Celebrating 32 Years of Excellence

The Sri Lanka Military Academy, (SLMA) stands as a pioneer in grooming the future leaders of the defence. Situated in the scenic and picturesque Diyatalawa, the Academy is rich in its unique history and tradition.

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Diyatalawa emerged as a garrison hill station following the arrival of Boer prisoners from South Africa. Over the time, it gained recognition as a popular holiday destination. However, a pivotal moment in Ceylon's history marked on 10 October 1949 with the establishment of the Ceylon Army, demanding a full-fledged institution to train the future military leaders. Initially, Officer Cadets were sent to the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst in England for preliminary military training, while some completed their training domestically. Sri Lanka Military Academy, Diyatalawa accordingly was one of the early training centres for the military forces.

The legacy of this prestigious institution is closely interwoven with the origins of the Ceylon Army. Over

the decades, the Academy has undergone significant transformation, evolving from a simple training ground for young Officer Cadets into a state-of-art officer-training establishment. After a series of name changes, it officially adopted the title "Sri Lanka Military Academy" in 1991, reflecting its enduring significance in the country's military landscape.

The Sri Lanka Military Academy proudly marked its 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary under the distinguished leadership of Major General U L J S Perera RSP USP psc, the 38<sup>th</sup> Commandant of the Academy on 20 August 2024. The vibrant celebration was included an overnight pirith chanting ceremony, alms-giving for Venerable Buddhist monks along with a solemn commemorative parade held at the War Memorial and ceremonial parade, followed by an All-Ranks lunch adhering to the deep rooted military tradition.

Today SLMA serves as an unparalleled premier in training





the young Officer Cadets in Sri Lanka who aspire to pursue a career of excellence. The Officer Cadets in SLMA undergo comprehensive and rigorous military training with a strong emphasis on leadership and military discipline. Upon the entry, trainees are designated as Junior Cadets, and as they advance through the respective ranks, they are entrusted with greater responsibilities progressively in command and control, which is significantly important for their excellence in the career. Presently, SLMA offers Bachelor's degree in Military Studies, accredited by the General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) marking a remarkable achievement of the establishment.

The Sri Lanka Military Academy takes immense pride in providing a diverse array of activities and facilities for its Officer Cadets, including horse riding, golf, tennis, soccer, and cricket opening a broad access to groom the young Officer Cadets towards the excellence in all aspects of their profession and life. The institution also provides state-of-the-art facilities, such as a modern gymnasium, a well-provided library, a spacious auditorium, and an elegant Officers' Mess which is supportive for the comprehensive grooming of the Junior Officers. Additionally, various sports and recreational clubs enhance young Officers' well-being contributing to the balanced personality development of a charismatic leaders.

In alignment with the objectives of the SLMA,







the training spectrum is meticulously crafted to ensure the professionalism and diligence of the Officer Cadets graduate as Commissioned Officers while gaining the proficiency and wisdom in numerous areas. These include expertise in military, linguistic ability, rhetoric, decision-making, command and control, personality development, and physical endurance. This holistic approach ensures to emerge the young Officer Cadets not only as skilled military leaders but also as confident and capable individuals.

The curriculum of the SLMA meticulously organised under its headquarters, with four distinct wings responsible for every aspects of training from strategic planning and execution to academic instruction and administration. These wings ensure that every aspect of an Officer Cadet's

journey is handled with precision and purpose, leading to produce Officers who exemplify excellence in every sense.

"Serve to Lead" stands as the distinguished motto of this prestigious institution, representing the founding essence of genuine leadership which is rooted in the act of serving the under command. It elucidates the foremost responsibility of a charismatic leader and qualities to empower, guide, and elevate their subordinates, prioritising needs of men under command above the personal interests. Further, it encourages dedicated service of a genuine leader that cultivates respect, loyalty, and the legitimate authority to lead the men with distinction and wisdom.







## Insightful Lecture on War Literature

**Amid economic, social, and political challenges, it is crucial to sustain the dedication of soldiers to their profession and discipline while instilling pride and excellence towards the service. This provides an essence to foster deep commitment of the soldiers towards their organisation and the nation. The lessons of history serve as valuable educative resources for young soldiers to enhance their understanding on the areas where they do not know. Also, new technologies and social media have introduced new challenges for them. The high demand for lecture series addressing these topics within the Army reflects the importance in guiding soldiers to navigate these complex issues effectively.**

Another successful phase of the island wide lecture series organised for the soldier motivation under the directions and supervision of Director General of Media and Psychological Operations took place at the Sri Lanka Military Academy (SLMA) on 10 August 2024. Accordingly, an insightful lecture on 'War Literature' was held at SLMA auditorium under the patronage of Major General U L J S Perera RSP USP psc, Commandant of SLMA with the participation of 700 Officers, Other Ranks, civilian employees, and their family members. Lieutenant Colonel Sujith Chaminda Edirisinghe conducted this session. The War Literature session highlighted the endurance, perseverance, unwavering dedications and sacrifices of War Heroes sharing the real time experiences of the war educating the young generation.

The same session was further expanded to Artillery Training School, Minneriy on 16 August 2024, Security Forces (Wanni) from 20 -23 August 2024, 21, 54 and 59 Infantry Divisions and Battalion Training School in Thunikkayi.

Further, Major M H M S Bandara of the Military Intelligence Corps educated the audience on social media usage, economic management and illegal activities.





# History of Nuclear Weapons

The history of nuclear weapons spans from the theoretical foundations of atomic physics to the development, deployment, and regulation of these powerful devices. Nuclear weapons are devices designed to release energy explosively from controlled nuclear reactions, either fission or a combination of fission and fusion. These reactions involve changes in the nuclei of atoms and can release immense amounts of energy, far greater than conventional explosives. The catastrophic effects of nuclear explosions include immediate blast and thermal radiation, followed by long-term radioactive fallout. The heat from the explosion can ignite fires over a large area, creating firestorms that amplify the overall damage. The initial radiation and fallout pose severe health risks, causing acute radiation sickness and increasing cancer risks over time. From their origins in theoretical physics to their role in modern international relations, nuclear weapons have shaped global history in profound ways.

Fission Weapons, also known as atomic bombs, release energy through the splitting of heavy atomic nuclei like uranium-235 or plutonium-239. When the nucleus of these isotopes absorbs a neutron, it becomes unstable and splits into two smaller nuclei, releasing a large amount of energy and more neutrons. The energy release from fission reactions typically results in a blast with intense pressure and a massive shockwave, capable of widespread destruction. Thermal radiation from the explosion can cause severe burns and ignite fires over a vast area. The initial burst of nuclear radiation is lethal to living organisms within a certain radius, while residual radiation (fallout) can spread over a larger area and persist for years. Boosted Fission Weapons enhance the efficiency of the fission reaction by introducing a small amount of fusion fuel







(deuterium and tritium) into the fission core. The fusion reaction increases the number of neutrons, boosting the fission process.

Fusion Weapons, also known as hydrogen bombs or thermonuclear bombs, derive their energy from fusing light nuclei such as deuterium and tritium, isotopes of hydrogen. Fusion weapons are significantly more powerful than fission weapons. They combine a fission primary stage to trigger a secondary fusion stage, resulting in a much higher energy release. The blast and thermal effects are magnified, and the radiation can cover a broader range. Fusion weapons can produce temperatures tens of millions of degrees Celsius, causing severe burns at distances of several miles. Enhanced Radiation Weapons, often referred to as neutron bombs, are a type of thermonuclear weapon designed to maximize the release of neutron radiation while minimising blast and heat. They use fusion reactions to produce a large number of high-energy neutrons. It is intended to kill biological organisms while causing relatively less structural damage compared to other nuclear devices.

Radiological Dispersal Devices (RDDs), also known as "dirty bombs," are not true nuclear weapons as they do not rely on nuclear reactions for their explosive power. Instead, they use conventional explosives to spread radioactive materials over a wide area, causing contamination and long-term health hazards. The primary purpose of RDDs is to cause panic, contamination, and disruption rather than large-scale destruction.

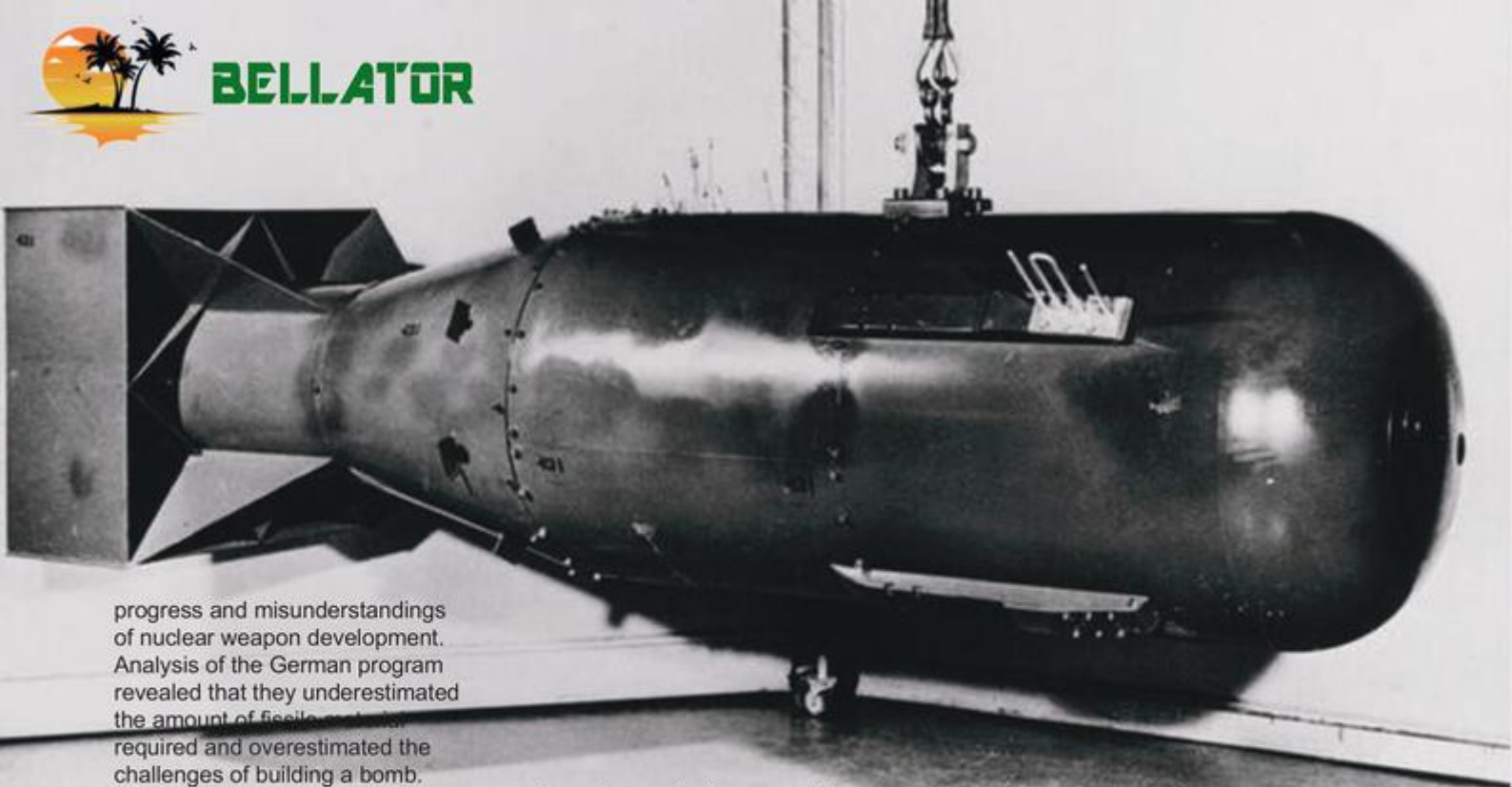
The theoretical foundation for fission bombs dates back to the early 20th century when physicists began to understand the nature of the atom. The discovery of radioactivity by Henri Becquerel in 1896, and subsequent research by Marie and Pierre Curie, laid the groundwork for nuclear physics. Albert Einstein's theory of relativity, published in 1905, introduced the famous equation  $E=mc^2$ , which suggested that small amounts of mass could be converted into enormous amounts of energy. In 1932 James Chadwick discovered the neutron, providing

a new particle that could penetrate atomic nuclei and potentially initiate a nuclear reaction. The discovery of nuclear fission in 1938 by German chemists Otto Hahn and Fritz Strassmann, and the theoretical explanation by Lise Meitner and Otto Frisch, provided the scientific basis for nuclear energy. In response to these discoveries, German scientists began considering the military applications of nuclear fission.

The Nazi Germany nuclear weapons programme, also known as the German nuclear energy project (Uranprojekt), was an ambitious but ultimately unsuccessful attempt during World War II to develop nuclear weapons. The German nuclear weapons program began in earnest shortly after the discovery of nuclear fission in 1938. Scientists like Werner Heisenberg and Kurt Diebner were involved in early theoretical and experimental work. The Nazi regime established the Uranium Club (Uranverein) in 1939 to coordinate nuclear research. Initial efforts focused on the feasibility of a nuclear reactor rather than weapon development. The leading research facility was the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Physics in Berlin-Dahlem. By mid-1942, German scientists understood the basic principles of nuclear fission but struggled with technical challenges, such as uranium enrichment and reactor design. The German economy was also strained by the demands of war, diverting resources away from the nuclear program. Allied bombings of key German industrial sites and infrastructure further hindered the nuclear programme. The most significant setback came in 1943 when Norwegian resistance fighters sabotaged the German heavy water plant in Vemork, Norway, crucial for nuclear research. By 1944, the Nazi leadership prioritised other weapon projects over the nuclear program as the Uranverein failed to achieve critical breakthroughs needed to develop a nuclear weapon. In April 1945, as the Allies advanced into Germany, key scientists, including Heisenberg, were captured and interrogated. The captured German scientists were interned at Farm Hall in England, where their conversations were secretly recorded. These transcripts revealed their limited





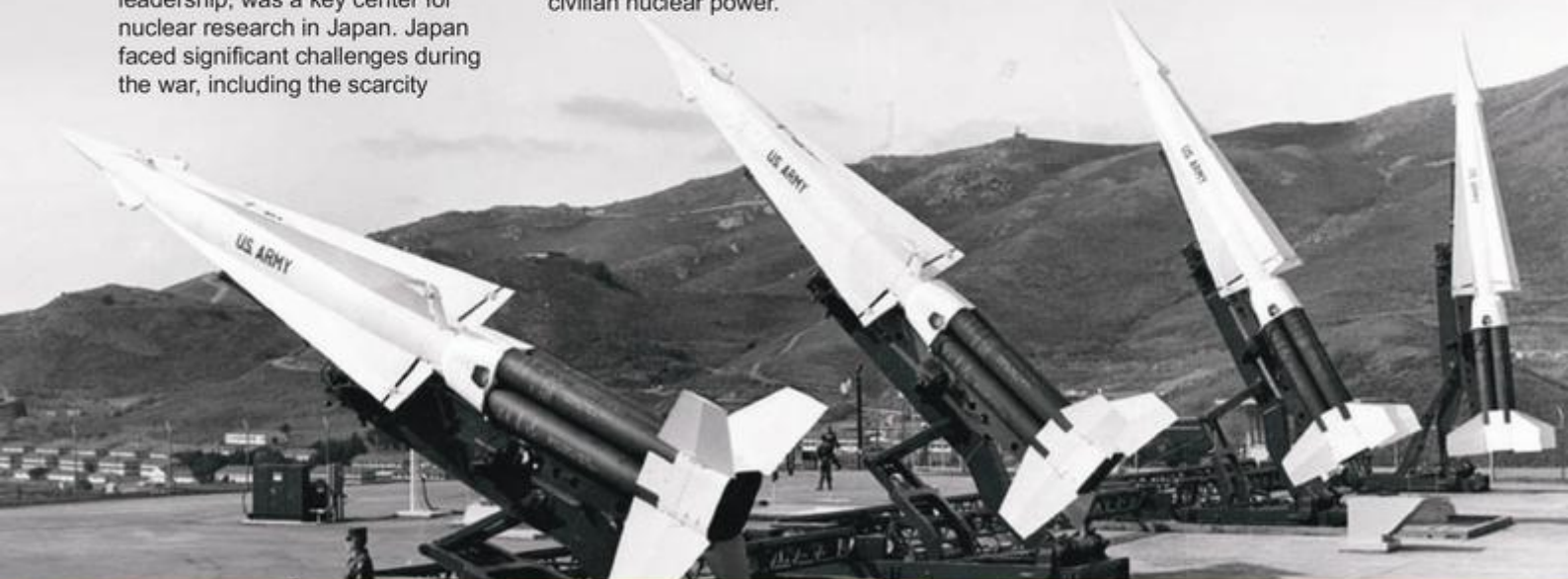


progress and misunderstandings of nuclear weapon development. Analysis of the German program revealed that they underestimated the amount of fissile material required and overestimated the challenges of building a bomb. There is debate among historians about whether Heisenberg and his colleagues intentionally slowed progress due to ethical concerns or simply failed to solve the technical problems. The German nuclear weapons program, while ultimately unsuccessful, provided valuable insights and contributed to the post-war nuclear programs of both the United States and the Soviet Union.

The Imperial Japanese nuclear weapons programme, similar to Nazi Germany's efforts, was an ambitious but ultimately unsuccessful attempt during World War II to develop nuclear weapons. Japanese scientists like Yoshio Nishina, who studied under Niels Bohr, and Bunsaku Arakatsu were involved in early nuclear research. The Riken Institute, under Nishina's leadership, was a key center for nuclear research in Japan. Japan faced significant challenges during the war, including the scarcity

of uranium and other essential materials, and Allied bombing campaigns. These factors hindered the nuclear programme's progress and diverted resources to more immediate military needs. By the end of World War II, Japan had not succeeded in developing a nuclear bomb. The surrender of Japan and subsequent occupation by Allied forces led to the cessation of nuclear research. After the war, Allied investigators, including the United States Strategic Bombing Survey, examined Japan's nuclear research efforts and concluded that the program was far from producing a functional nuclear weapon. After the war, Japan renounced nuclear weapons as part of its pacifist constitution. The country shifted its focus to peaceful uses of nuclear energy, becoming a major player in civilian nuclear power.

The fear that Nazi Germany was developing nuclear weapons prompted the United States to launch the Manhattan Project in 1942. Physicists such as Robert Oppenheimer, Enrico Fermi, and Niels Bohr played pivotal roles in the project. Research and development were conducted at sites like Los Alamos, New Mexico, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and Hanford, Washington. In 1942 under the leadership of Enrico Fermi, scientists achieved the first controlled nuclear chain reaction in Chicago Pile-1 at the University of Chicago. The first successful test of an atomic bomb, known as the Trinity Test, occurred on 16 July 1945, in Alamogordo, New Mexico.







On 6 August 1945, the United States dropped an atomic bomb named "Little Boy" on Hiroshima, Japan. It was a uranium-235 gun-type fission bomb. It had a yield of approximately 15 kilotons of TNT. The explosion resulted in an immediate fireball, extensive blast damage, and subsequent radiation effects. The bomb's energy release caused massive destruction within a one-mile radius and severe thermal and blast damage extending several miles beyond ground zero. It destroyed 5 square miles of Hiroshima, and killed an estimated 70,000–80,000 people instantly by the blast and ensuing firestorm. By the end of 1945, the death toll had risen to approximately 140,000 due to the effects of radiation exposure, burns, and other injuries. A second bomb named "Fat Man" was dropped on Nagasaki on 9 August 1945. It was a plutonium-239 implosion-type fission bomb, with a yield of around 21 kilotons of TNT. Its design involved conventional explosives compressing a plutonium core to initiate a chain reaction. The immediate effects were similar to Little Boy but with a slightly larger and more complex destruction pattern due to the implosion mechanism. It destroyed about 2.6 square miles of Nagasaki, and killed an estimated 40,000–75,000 people instantly. Many survivors, known as hibakusha, suffered from Acute Radiation Syndrome (ARS), which caused severe health issues and fatalities. Increased incidences of leukemia, thyroid cancer, breast cancer, and other cancers were reported among survivors. Genetic damage also affected future generations. The immediate and long-term devastation underscored the immense destructive power of nuclear weapons. This marked the first and only use of nuclear weapons in warfare. The bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have been subjects of intense ethical debate, with discussions about the necessity and morality of using such weapons.

The Atomic Energy Act of 1946 established the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) to control and manage nuclear technology. The Soviet Union's successful test of an atomic bomb in 1949 initiated the nuclear arms race. The United States tested its first hydrogen bomb on 1 November 1952, significantly increasing the power of its nuclear arsenal. It was codenamed "Ivy Mike" and it had a yield of approximately 10.4 megatons of TNT. It was the first full-scale thermonuclear test, and the explosion vaporized the island of Elugelab in the Enewetak Atoll. The largest United States nuclear test was conducted on 1 March 1954. It was codenamed "Castle Bravo". This thermonuclear device had a yield of approximately 15 megatons of TNT. The explosion was 1,000 times more powerful than the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Throughout the Cold War, the United States and the Soviet Union engaged in a nuclear arms race, building up their arsenals and testing increasingly sophisticated nuclear weapons. This period saw the development of intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs), and strategic bombers equipped with nuclear warheads. Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs) are typically equipped with thermonuclear warheads. Modern ICBMs like the United States Minuteman III can carry multiple independently targetable reentry vehicles (MIRVs), each with a yield of 300–500 kilotons. These warheads are designed to destroy hardened military targets and cities, producing catastrophic effects. Tactical Nuclear Weapons are smaller-yield weapons intended for use

on the battlefield. They can have yields ranging from a fraction of a kiloton to several kilotons. While less powerful than strategic nuclear weapons, their use would still result in significant local destruction and long-term radiation hazards. The United States maintains a nuclear triad consisting of land-based intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs), and strategic bombers. The nuclear arsenal is periodically modernized to ensure its reliability and effectiveness.

**to be continued...**

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*Keido Kurberg*





# The Grip of Digital Addiction

Since the dawn of civilisation, man has continually developed technologies to adapt to diverse challenges. The methods and tools evolved with the experiences, leading to the creation of new technologies tailored to specific needs. This process of technological evolution has been unceasing, from the Stone Age to the present day, and will likely continue until the end of time. In contemporary terms, technology is often defined as the application of scientific knowledge to practical goals in human life, or more broadly, as the modification of the human environment to bring about desired changes.

The rise of digitalisation, characterised by the adaptation of systems and processes to fully operate computers and the internet, has fundamentally redefined the concept of digitalisation, making it more effective and efficient. With the world now accessible at our fingertips through digital means, technology has embarked on a profound journey, spreading every aspect of human life.

Digitalisation is rapidly spreading across the globe, enhancing the efficiency and convenience of daily tasks and roles. It has also afforded people more time and freedom to engage in innovation, creativity, critical thinking, and mindfulness—qualities that, in turn, enrich personal relationships and improve family life. This shift represents a significant advantage for everyone.







Mindfulness and pleasure are essential to maintaining good mental health. While technology and digital platforms have undoubtedly simplified many aspects of life and contributed to a higher quality of living, they can also create a sense of entrapment. Across all age groups—children, teenagers, young adults, middle-aged individuals, and even the elderly—many have fallen victim to the pervasive influence of digital devices. Research has shown that technology addiction can have serious repercussions for both mental and physical health, leading to issues such as muscle pain, sleep disturbances, and an increased risk of mental health disorders.

Instead of utilising our time and space for innovation, creative thinking, and engaging in physical activities such as sports, hiking, or swimming, we often find ourselves ensnared in the invisible web of digital and technological dependencies. Would you agree?

Social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram, online games, streaming music, and messaging apps like Messenger and WhatsApp exert a powerful influence over our lives. At times, it feels impossible to break free from their hold, leading to feelings of loneliness, anxiety, and a fear of missing out. Even when faced with important decisions, we often experience a nagging doubt about whether we are making the right choice, further complicating our mental state.

Understanding digital addiction is challenging, as it involves a complex interplay of psychological factors, particularly the attractive videos, music, news, online streaming, and

various other digital contents. The excessive use of these digital platforms can lead to severe mental and physical health issues, potentially even becoming life-threatening.

Overreliance on a technology-driven digital life can significantly weaken human abilities, especially cognitive functions such as creative thinking, decision-making, and stress management. This dependency can gradually suppress natural human behaviours, leading to a state of "learned helplessness," where individuals feel incapable of changing their circumstances, even when they have the opportunity to do so.



Fortunately, the solutions to these challenges lie within our reach. By making conscious choices, understanding the risks of overuse, and discerning the positive and negative aspects of technology, we can avoid becoming slaves to it. With a bit of effort, awareness, and support from others, anyone can overcome these challenges. This approach can foster generations that are sensitive, thoughtful, intelligent, and productive—endowed with cognitive abilities and, more importantly, humanistic values infused with a sense of beauty.



By Nisal Rukshan  
Nisal Rukshan, MHRM, B.A. (Defence), BSc (Hons.) Counselling Psychology, DCPsy  
Email: rukshan4slsr@gmail.com



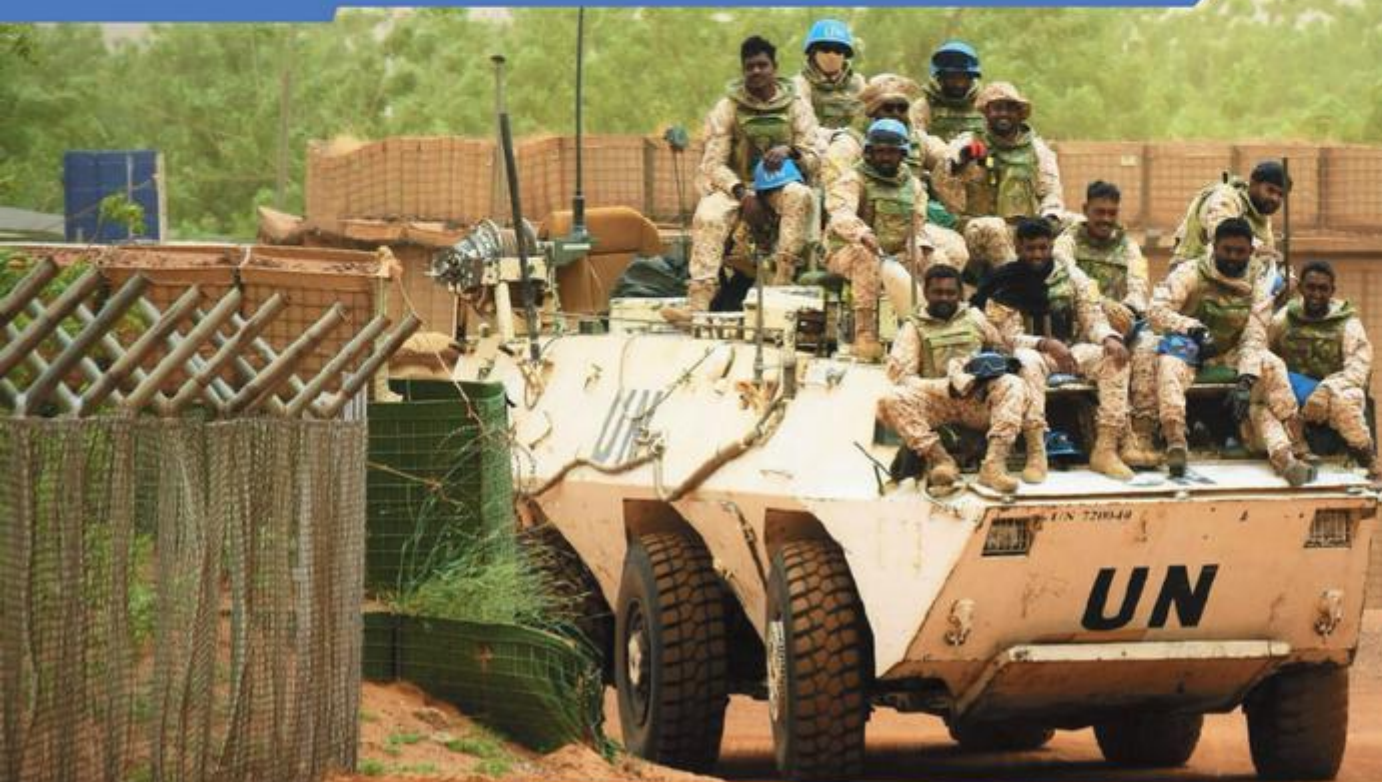
## Ranaviru Apparel Road Declared Open

Under the directions of Brigadier M G A N B Mahathuwakkara RWP RSP ndc, Commandant, Ranviru Apparel and the supervision of Colonel P W S P B Galagama, General Manger of Ranviru Apparel-Alawwa the access road to Ranviru Apparel-Alawwa in Nelumdeniya-Alawwa main road declared open on 12 July 2024 by Commandant, Ranviru Apparel. The Officers and Other Ranks extended the much required financial generosity for the success of the project. Brigadier A C J Wasage, Deputy Commandant of Ranviru Apparel, Officers and Other Ranks serving at the Ranviru Apparel took part in the inauguration.





# Guardians of Peace Returns Home After Successful Completion of Mali Mission



Engaging in UN peacekeeping missions is one of the highest honours a nation could receive on the international stage. Sri Lanka has earned global recognition for its distinctive role in United Nations peacekeeping operations. Serving in the UN Peacekeeping Force is a unique professional opportunity and an honour for the soldiers. At present, Sri Lanka Army troops are serving in international peacekeeping missions, bringing pride to the nation.

The expertise acquired by Sri Lanka Army troops through their decisive victory over domestic terrorism is now being used internationally in the execution of UN peacekeeping duties. Consequently, since its inception of UN military



*Written by Lt Dilanka Gunathilaka SLAGSC  
Translated by Capt KVN Lakmali SLAGSC  
Directorate of Media & Psychological Operations  
Army Headquarters*

peacekeeping operations, Sri Lanka has deployed many Army Officers and Other Ranks to missions in Haiti, Lebanon, South Sudan, the Republic of Chad, and Mali. In accordance with Chapters 6 and 7 of the Principles and

Guidelines for of United Nations Peacekeeping Operations, Sri Lanka troops continued to uphold their commitment to secure the global peace and security through their participation in these critical peacekeeping roles.





Commissioned Officers and Other Ranks from a wide array of units within the Sri Lanka Army—including the Sri Lanka Armoured Corps, Sri Lanka Artillery, Sri Lanka Engineers, Sri Lanka Signal Corps, Sri Lanka Light Infantry, Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment, Gamunu Watch, Gajaba Regiment, Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment, Mechanized Infantry Regiment, Commando Regiment, Special Forces, Military Intelligence Corps, Corps of Engineer Services, Sri Lanka Army Service Corps, Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps, Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps, Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police, Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps, Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps, and Sri Lanka National Guards—are currently deployed in UN peacekeeping operations.

Sri Lanka Army personnel are actively engaged in two United Nations peacekeeping missions across Lebanon and South Sudan. Notably, the combat transport team deployed in Mali undertakes some of the most demanding assignments. Officers from the Sri Lanka Army are also serving in a second-level hospital established in Bor, South Sudan, in the Headquarters Guard Security Team in Lebanon, and a Lady Officer is contributing her expertise as part of the United Nations Military Observer team in Western Sahara.

The Sri Lanka Army was deployed for combat transport duties under the Multidisciplinary Joint Stabilization Operation Headquarters in Mali, where they undertook the arduous task of providing simultaneous protection to two convoys. These missions are assigned with traveling distances of approximately 1,000 kilometers at a time. However, the troops managed all aspects of vehicle transport while ensuring the security of the convoy. The challenge of safeguarding the convoy from improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and pressure bombs planted by various insurgent groups made the task exceptionally perilous. In recognition of their service under these challenging conditions, the Sri Lanka Army was awarded the MINUSMA SECTOR EAST FOR EXCELLENCE medal.



Their efforts also contributed over 14.5 billion rupees in foreign exchange to Sri Lanka.

As the sole foreign peacekeeping force conducting combat vehicle operations at the Multidisciplinary Joint Stabilization Mission Headquarters (MINUSMA) bases in Kidal, Aguelhok, and Tessalit, the Sri Lanka Army Combat Vehicle Security Division executed its duties with unwavering dedication and professionalism. Despite the constant threat to their lives, these valorous members remained committed to secure the logistics transport vehicles, demonstrating remarkable bravery and expertise in the face of danger.

While the Sri Lanka Army has received significant recognition for its contributions, these achievements came at a great cost. During peacekeeping operations in Mali, Captain H W D Jayawickrama of the Sri Lanka Light Infantry and Corporal Wijekumara S S of the Mechanized Infantry Regiment sacrificed their lives during the duty due to explosive devices, planted by insurgents against the Sri Lanka Army convoy. In addition, five Army Officers and 29 Other Ranks injured during the Mali mission.

Upon the conclusion of the United Nations peacekeeping operations in Mali, the Sri Lanka Army troops returned home in 2004. A total of 1,099 Other Ranks and 14 Staff Officers were deployed for peacekeeping duties in Mali.

Notably, the Sri Lanka Army was the only foreign military force that remained in Mali until the completion of the UN missions. After fulfilling their combat transport duties, the Sri Lanka Army continued to serve with devotional commitment, ensuring the security of the Multidisciplinary Joint Stabilization Operation Headquarters in Mali until the very last moment.

Sri Lanka, having concluded the world's largest humanitarian operation, now upholds a significant responsibility in maintaining international relations through its UN missions. The steadfast dedication of Sri Lanka Army troops in these UN operations, aimed at fostering global peace while reassuring the reputation as the most 'Humanitarian Army' in the world, deserves the highest commendation.



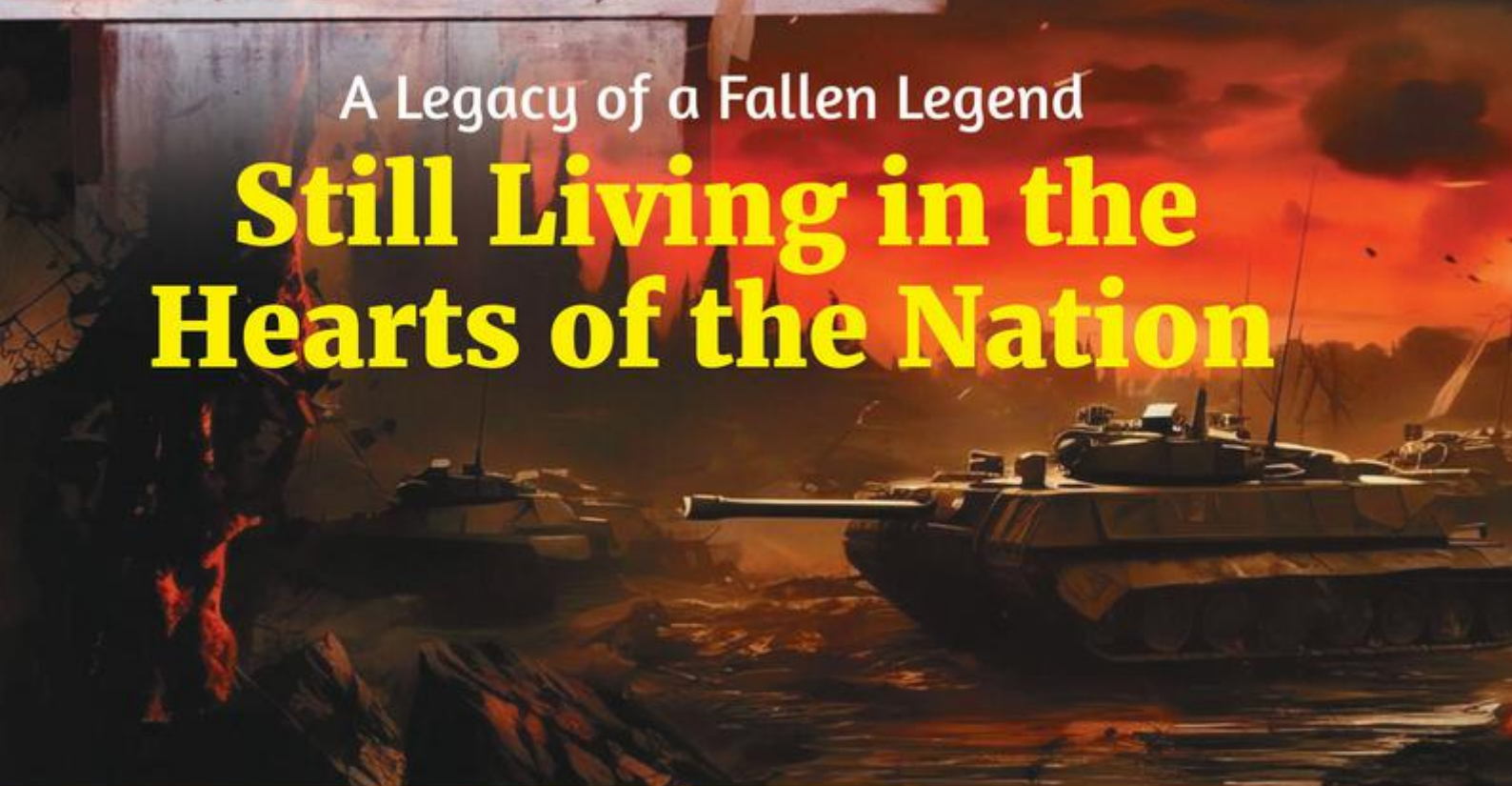


BELLATOR



A Legacy of a Fallen Legend

# Still Living in the Hearts of the Nation







It has been 32 years since the tragic demise of Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa and his loyal comrades to the Nation while guarding the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Nation. The War Heroes bade farewell to the Nation on 08 August 1992 due to a devastating bomb explosion occurred at Araly Point. The sacrifice of Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa and his companions remains in the history as a testimony of the unwavering dedication to safeguard peace of the country. This article is a reflection on his enduring legacy and the profound impact of his service for the Nation.

Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa, a distinguished military Officer, was renowned for his genuine leadership and visionary foresight. His service in the Northern Theater marked with a deep understanding of the aspirations of the peace-loving citizens of the Nation. Committed to pursue the ever-lasting peace, he led his men with a resolute sense of duty assuring well-being and fundamental rights of the defenseless citizens and the unarmed foes in custody.

On 08 August 1992, Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa, accompanied by Brigadier Wijaya Wimalaratne, Commodore Mohan Jayamaha, Colonel H R Stephen, and several other Senior Officers, set out on a mission. Departing from Karainagar, they headed towards Araly Point in the Northern Theater

as part of their ongoing operations. Initially, they moved to Kayts Island in a speedboat, reaching their destination around 0900 hours. From there, the Senior Officers decided to continue rest of their journey in two jeeps with their men being unaware of the peril awaited.

At the time, Colonel Stephen and Colonel Ariyaratne awaited for the arrival of Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa and his companions. Brigadier Wijaya Wimalaratne briefed Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa on the unprecedented threats frequent in the Northern Theater looming ahead as they advanced. Weighing the gravity of the situation, Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa decided to proceed in a jeep with his troops. Brigadier Wimalaratne took the wheel, Commodore Mohan Jayamaha and Lieutenant General Kobbekaduwa were beside him. Behind them sat Colonel Ariyaratne, Colonel Palipana, Colonel Stephen, Major Alwis, Lieutenant Lankathilaka, and Lieutenant Wijepura. Corporal Wickramaratne and Private Upali held their positions at the rear doors as the jeep moved forward.

Meanwhile, a helicopter stood ready at Welathee in Kayts Island, to retrieve the Senior Officers upon the completion of their mission. The helicopter loomed in sight in a distance of 225 meters from the jeep at the time where all the men in the jeep were ready to off. Suddenly, an unexpected explosion engulfed the

jeep scattering its brave occupants into the winds of destiny. Moments later, unconscious Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa's body found in a few meters away and swiftly transferred for urgent medical care. Commodore Jayamaha, bore the grievous weight of injury though Corporal Upali, spared from death's embrace, yet gravely injured becoming the only survivor of the tragic explosion.

Though Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa swiftly transferred to the Army Hospital in Palali for urgent care, the severity of his injuries demanded immediate transfer to Sri Jayawardenapura Hospital and later to Colombo General Hospital. There, a team of dedicated specialists - Dr. Mohideen, Dr. Sheriffdeen, and Dr. Samarasinghe—along with their tireless nursing staff, fought valiantly to save the life of this distinguished military leader. Despite their relentless efforts, the ruthless fate had a different plan. On 08 August 1992, Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa departed from the Nation.

Rana Wickrama Padakkama (RWP- Combat Gallantry Medal), Rana Sura Padakkama (RSP- Combat Excellence Medal), Vishista Seva Vibhushanaya (VSV- Distinguished Service Decoration), Uttama







Seva Padakkama (USP- Eminent Service Medal), the Desha Putra Sammanaya, the Purna Bhumi Padakkama and the Vadamarachchi Operation Medal accolades elucidates his illustrious legacy as a warrior in his career. Further, he was posthumously elevated to the rank of Lieutenant General and Uththama Pooja Pranama Padakkama was delivered to his next of kin in recognition of his supreme sacrifice.

Though the war has now reached its end, the absence of this Gentleman and a Warrior remains carved in our collective memory. Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa being more than a soldier was a hallmark of humanity, camaraderie, and profound wisdom. His sole purpose was to bring peace to the motherland. His wise words, "Let's not leave this war to the next generation," further reflects his selfless commitment to end the war for the sake of future generations.

Unlike many military leaders before him, his love for his men was boundless. As Commander of the North in 1990, he regularly ventured into the most remote, threatened villages, attending to the needs of innocent civilians while ensuring the safety and well-being of his troops. His legacy is not simply a battle, but of compassion and unwavering dedication to bring best for his people.

An Army Officer who once served under him wrote, " Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa



fought with valour and unyielding determination to safeguard the integrity of our nation, striving for a brighter tomorrow for all Sri Lankans. He was, indeed, a man of the 20<sup>th</sup> century." These words illuminate the essence of a true War Hero, a rare figure in modern age. His unwavering dedication to his country and his people sets him apart yet his supreme sacrifice stands tall as a legacy seldom seen in the times we live.

With the demise of Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa, the Sri Lanka Army lost a remarkable Officer, Mrs. Lali Kobbekaduwa lost a devoted husband, and his children lost a loving father. The nation lost a legendary War Hero. Though he is fallen, his legacy shall remain in the hearts of a grateful nation as Grate poet Laurence Binyon once said in his poem 'For The Fallen' ;

*"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:*

*Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.*

*At the going down of the sun and in the morning*

*We will remember them"*

*For the Fallen –by Laurence Binyon*

By Lieutenant Duminda Senarath 2 SLAGSC  
Journalist  
Directorate of Media & Psychological Operations  
Army Headquarters



**An Army Officer who once served under him wrote, " Lieutenant General Denzil Kobbekaduwa fought with valour and unyielding determination to safeguard the integrity of our nation, striving for a brighter tomorrow for all Sri Lankans. He was, indeed, a man of the 20th century." These words illuminate the essence of a true War Hero, a rare figure in modern age. His unwavering dedication to his country and his people sets him apart yet his supreme sacrifice stands tall as a legacy seldom seen in the times we live.**





# FOREIGN MISSIONS

## Sri Lankan Troops Train Indonesian Forces in Lebanon

Sri Lankan Army troops serving in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) conducted a special training session for Indonesian peacekeepers on 28 August 2024. This session, initiated at the request of the Indonesian Contingent Commander, was designed to enhance safety and security protocols, with a specific focus on handling Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs).

The Sri Lanka team imparted their expertise and experience, aiming to equip the Indonesian troops with the necessary skills to manage these critical threats effectively.



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# Perception Warfare

## Propaganda in War and Peace

War has evolved far beyond its traditional forms. It is no longer just about overwhelming charges and honourable exchanges of fire. Today, it encompasses a multifaceted struggle to control crucial domains while thwarting the adversary's efforts to do the same. Simply put, land warfare aims to dominate the ground, air warfare centers on achieving supremacy in the sky, and naval warfare focuses on controlling key water bodies. Moreover, there are indications that major powers may soon compete for dominance in space, depending on the progression of space warfare.

An often-overlooked facet of warfare is psychological warfare, which arguably presents a more challenging task. In essence, this branch of warfare seeks to influence the minds of those involved in a conflict, whether they are citizens of the enemy nation or even individuals within one's own state. At its core, psychological warfare (closely tied to information warfare) relies heavily on the strategic use of propaganda as its central concept and weapon.

In general, information spread on a mass scale to advance a certain point of view, idea or ideology can be considered propaganda. In other words,

it's a form of communication that is often strategically crafted to shape perceptions and manipulate public opinion, serving the interests of those behind its creation and dissemination. NATO in their Military Public Affairs Policy (2011) defines propaganda as "information, ideas, doctrines, or special appeals disseminated to influence the opinion, emotions, attitudes, or behavior of any specified group in order to benefit the sponsor, either directly or indirectly".

Propaganda has a long and storied history, reaching back to the age of stone inscriptions. The first modern institution dedicated to propaganda is widely recognised as the Congregatio de Propaganda Fide, (Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith) established by the Catholic Church in the early 1600s as part of the Counter-Reformation. This institution marked the first use of the term "propaganda" to







describe an organized, large-scale effort to disseminate information—specifically, the gospel of Christ. This pivotal development set the stage for the systematic use of propaganda to influence and control public perception.

Throughout history, propaganda campaigns have been orchestrated by a diverse array of actors, including governments, political parties, religious institutions, and corporations, each with their own distinct objectives. These campaigns have been employed to achieve a wide range of goals, from rallying support for wars and political movements to promoting social causes and commercial products; this article will be looking at two types, wartime and peacetime propaganda.

## War and Peace

The propaganda campaigns conducted by states during the World Wars serve as prime examples of wartime propaganda. Notable pre-war propaganda efforts include those orchestrated by Nazi Germany through the Reich Ministry of Public Enlightenment and Propaganda, and by Fascist Italy via the Ministry of Popular Culture. In contrast, peacetime propaganda is exemplified by the relentless waves of messaging disseminated by North Korea through their Department of Propaganda and Agitation.

Wartime propaganda serves multiple objectives, including preparing the population for mobilisation and galvanising public support for the war effort. This is achieved through various methods, such as highlighting the necessity of the war, often by showcasing an exaggerated version of the potential consequences if the country loses. Additionally, wartime propaganda paints the adversary as an evil force that must be stopped at all costs, frequently highlighting or fabricating stories of atrocities committed by the enemy. This approach aims to create a sense of urgency and moral imperative, fostering unity and determination among the populace to support the war effort.

For example, the report of the Committee on Alleged German Outrages published by the War

Propaganda Bureau/Wellington House in Britain published in 1915. The report detailed alleged atrocities committed by German forces during their invasion of Belgium, including the mass killing of civilians, destruction of property, and other brutal acts. This had served several purposes: it aimed to generate outrage and hatred toward the German enemy, justify Britain's involvement in the war, and rally public support for the war effort. By highlighting these purported atrocities, the British government sought to depict the Germans as barbaric and inhumane, thus framing the conflict as a moral crusade against evil. Although some of the accounts in the report were later found to be exaggerated or unverified, the impact on public opinion at the time was significant.

Wellington House in Britain (and their Political Warfare Executive) alongside the US Office of War Information during World War II, The Committee on Public Information in the United States during the first World War and the aforementioned institutions of Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy are some of the most important state propaganda institutions in what is called "the golden age of propaganda". Beyond the two world wars, state propaganda efforts continued to be influential during the Cold War. The United States Information Agency (USIA) was established to promote American values and counter Soviet influence worldwide. Similarly, the Information Research Department (IRD) in the UK worked to combat communist propaganda and promote Western ideals. In the USSR, the GRU orchestrated extensive propaganda campaigns to advance Soviet interests and ideology. These institutions conducted massive propaganda drives, utilising a variety of media and techniques to influence both domestic and international audiences.

## PEACETIME PROPAGANDA

Peacetime propaganda, in the absence of imminent war, is mostly used to ensure compliance and stability within a state. This type of propaganda from state institutions aims to build confidence and pride

in the regime by highlighting the ideological goals and successes of the current regime and creating a sense of purpose by appealing to higher values and noble aspirations. For instance, propaganda channels in the USSR often emphasised the pursuit of a truly communist utopian society, and Imperial Japan portrayed itself to its citizens as the great modernising force which will save Asia from Colonial Shackles and take it to the new century.

To create unity, peacetime propagandists also employ the technique of manufacturing a common enemy, whether it be external adversaries or internal 'threats'. This strategy fosters a sense of solidarity and collective purpose among the populace, positioning the regime as the protector against these fabricated threats.

The strategy of creating internal threats reveals the darker side of peacetime propaganda. Historically, this approach has involved the selection, discrimination, dehumanisation, antagonisation, deportation, and ultimately, even the elimination of societal groups sharing common characteristics. By identifying a specific group as a threat to the nation or societal values, regimes can manipulate public fear and prejudice to justify oppressive measures. This tactic not only consolidates power by diverting attention from internal issues but also fosters a climate of fear and conformity. The most well-known example of this was how the Jews in Nazi Germany were painted out to be all powerful beings secretly wishing and working for the downfall of society, leading to their genocide, the Holocaust. But the tragic consequences of such propaganda are seen in numerous other instances; the Tutsis in Rwanda, the Ukrainians in the Holodomor, the 'intellectuals' during the Khmer Rouge reign in Cambodia etc. These tragic events show that by manipulating public perception and fostering hatred, propaganda can be used as a tool of oppression and violence, with tragic consequences for those targeted.

It's also noticeable that a ruling regime's ideological callings like antisemitism inherent in Nazism





and atheism in Communism, have been incorporated into their propaganda campaigns as a method of (or under the guise of) uniting the nation. These campaigns can be gigantic. For example, in the case of anti-religious propaganda in the Soviet Union, the League of Militant Atheists a.k.a. the Society of the Godless had about 3.5 million members from almost 100 ethnicities and had almost 100,000 offices across the country. In an interesting case of interplay, one of their most common narratives was that campaigns against religion were campaigns for the five-year plans of the state.

## The debates

The concept of propaganda is one of the least understood and therefore misunderstood concepts in all of military studies and other related subjects of study like security studies, international relations and politics. There are a few factors that contribute to this elusiveness. The main reason is the fact that it is incredibly hard to properly define what propaganda is. Historically, because of the large scope of propaganda or in other words, the debate about what information counts as propaganda or not, it has been difficult to settle on one concrete definition.

Even though propaganda is often associated with misinformation, manipulation, and deception, leading to negative connotations, propaganda is inherently neutral. Propaganda can also be used positively to inform, educate, and persuade. The ambiguity surrounding the definition of propaganda has led to misunderstandings about its nature and purpose.

We know that information used to persuade is the essence of propaganda but then questions of what kind of information? Is all information used to persuade considered propaganda? If so, are things like advertising, marketing and even literature propaganda?

In the early 1900s when the debates around propaganda and the role it will play in society were at their peak, advertising, marketing and public relations were considered propaganda. These subjects were part of the debates around propaganda which contributed to how we think of propaganda today, the debate between Everett Dean Martin and Edward Bernays being a prime example. But through careful efforts by the professionals in these fields, these activities are no longer considered to be propaganda in the eyes of the modern public.

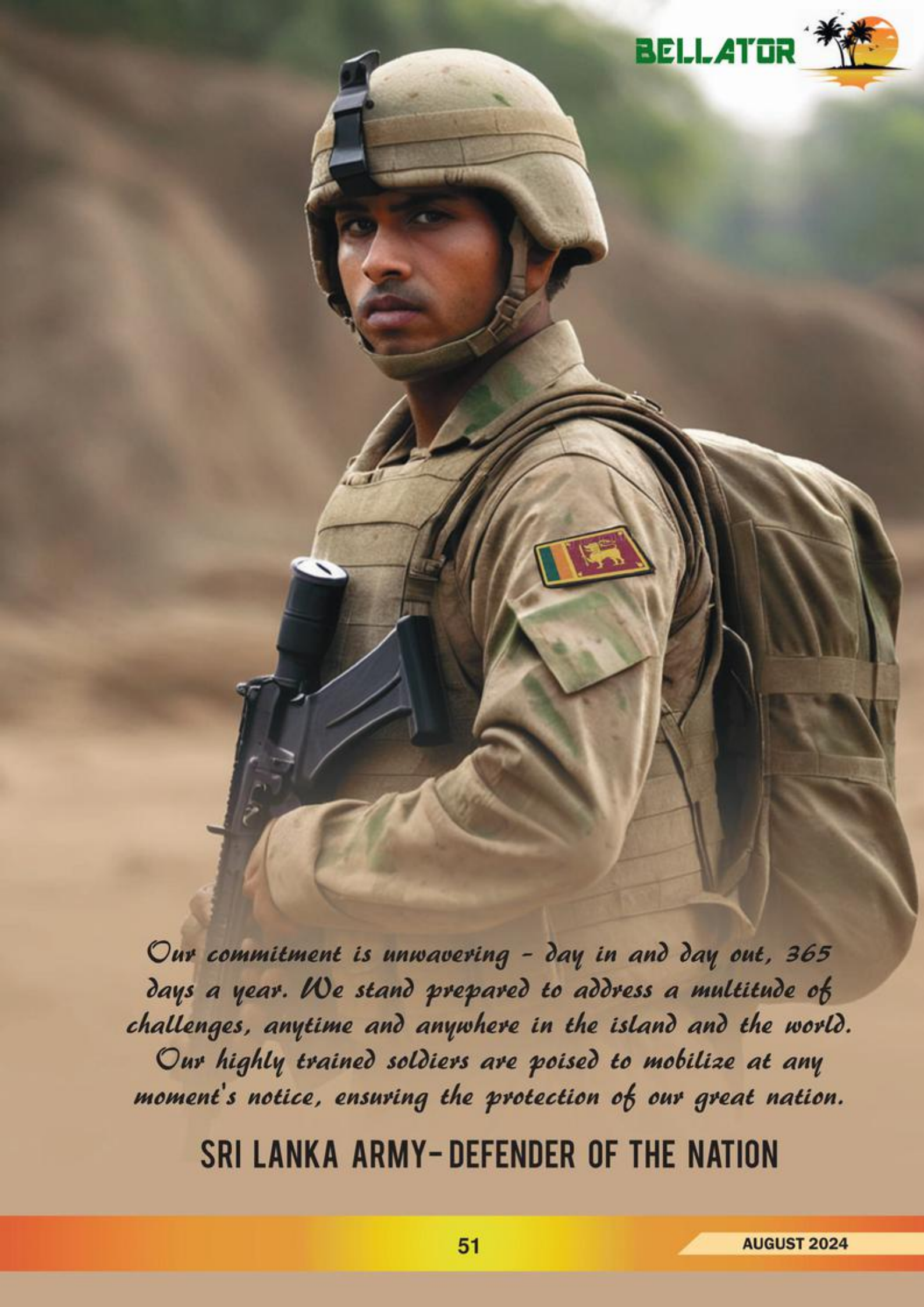
## Moving forward

Since the clear distinction between propaganda and fields like public relations has been firmly established in the public's mind, it would be unwise for anyone in these fields to publicly conflate the two. For militaries, this distinction is crucial, particularly in maintaining a clear separation between their public relations efforts and information/psychological operations. Striking this delicate balance is essential for modern military operations and their public image. As NATO's Military Public Affairs Policy in 2011 rightly pointed out: In addition, organisational arrangements must take account of the damage that can be done to [NATO's] credibility if there is a perception that, through PA activities, NATO is attempting to unduly manipulate audiences or the media. Beyond coordination of efforts, messages and being informed of these activities therefore, public affairs will have no role in planning or executing information on operations, psychological operations, or deception operations.



*Daham Jayarathna  
Executive Officer (External Affairs)  
Bandaranaike Academy for Leadership and  
Public Policy*





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**SRI LANKA ARMY- DEFENDER OF THE NATION**



# Charity Palmcard

*We are always dedicated to serve anywhere in the planet...!*

## **1. Shramadana Campaign**



Troops of the 18 Gemunu Watch (GW) conducted a Shramadana campaign on 22 August 2024 to clean the Kumbukkana Gangarama Temple premises and Monaragala, Maduruketiya Children's Development Center premises.

## **2. NCD Screening and Education Clinic**



A Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) screening clinic was held at the Special Forces Regimental Centre, Naula on 16 August 2024.

## **3. Cleaning Programme at Diyatalawa Hospital**



Troops of Security Force (Central) conducted a cleaning programme at the Army Base Hospital, Diyatalawa on 21 August 2024.

## **4. 'Kavi Bana' at Laxapana Central College**



Troops of the 19 Sri Lanka National Guard (SLNG) organised a poetic sermon, 'Kavi Bana,' at Laxapana Central College on 16 August 2024.

## **5. Grade 5 Model Papers for Hambantota and Monaragala Students**



The 12 Infantry Division distributed Grade 5 scholarship model papers among the students in the Hambantota and Monaragala districts on 15 August 2024.

## **6. New House for a Needy Family**



Troops of 5 Gemunu Watch (GW) constructed a new house for a needy family in Wellawaya area and vested the new house for the beneficiary on 04 August 2024.

## **7. Charity Event at Ananda Viharaya Dhamma School**



The 6th Regiment (Reinforcement) Sri Lanka Armoured Corps (SLAC) provided lunch and stationery items to children at the Ananda Viharaya Dhamma School in Galkadawala on 11 August 2024.

## **8. New Altar Dresses Distributed at St. Mary's Church in Pooneryn**



Six new altar boy dresses were distributed to the altar boys at St. Mary's Church in Pooneryn on 11 August 2024 under the supervision of Colonel C D Welagedara USP IG, Commander, 552 Infantry Brigade with the coordination of 22 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment.

## **9. New House for Needy Family in Rajawewa**



Troops from the 5 Sri Lanka Artillery (SLA) successfully completed the construction of a new house for a needy family in Thalgaswewa, Rajawewa on 7 August 2024.





## 10. Cornerstone for a New House



General Officer Commanding of the 22 Infantry Division laid a foundation stone for a new house for a needy family in Morawewa, Trincomalee on 01 August 2024 amidst religious rituals.

## 11. Donation Programme at 221 Infantry Brigade



Troops of the 221 Infantry Brigade conducted a donation programme at the Pulmoddai Kanijavelly Sinhala School.



## 12. Leadership Workshop for Students

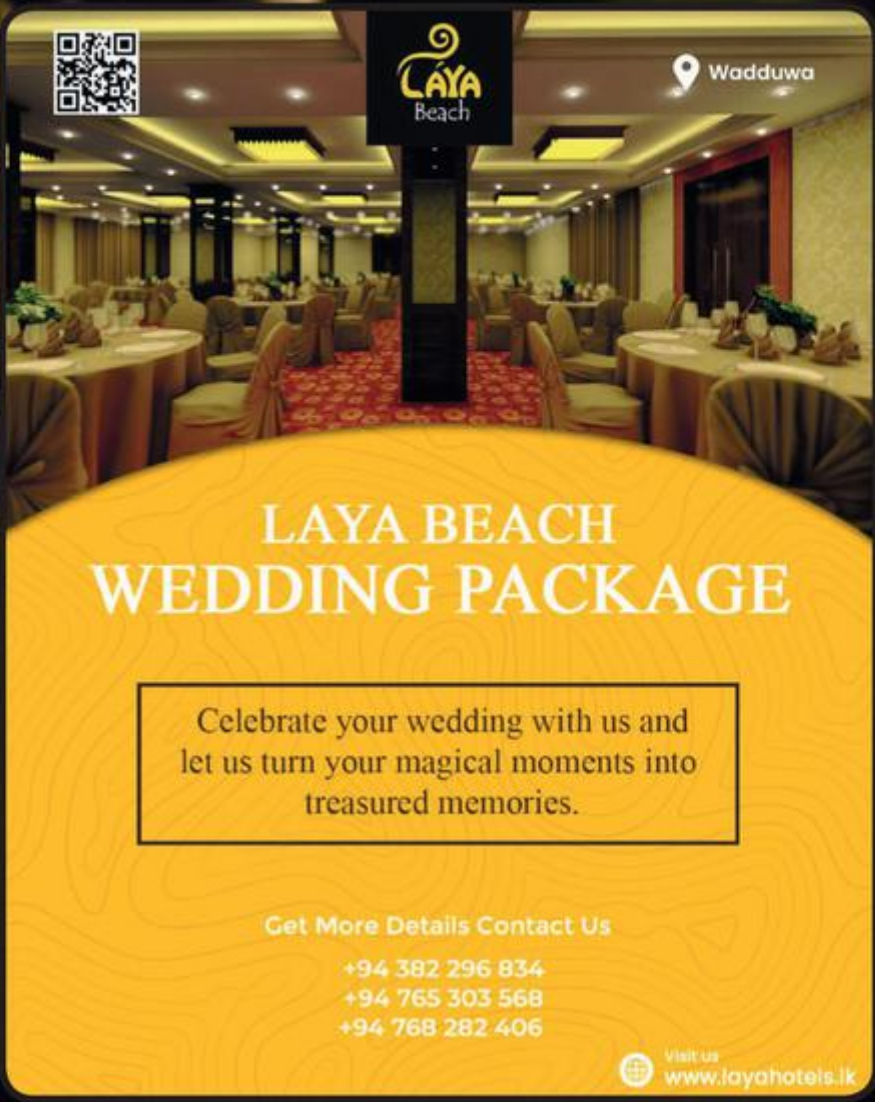


2 (V) Gemunu Watch conducted a 'Leadership Training Programme' for students at Jinarathana Maha Vidyalaya in Galle on 24 July 2024.







Wadduwa



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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





## Lady Officer Cadet Chathurangani Triumphs at the 4<sup>th</sup> CISM Military World Cadet Games

Lady Officer Cadet T K A G W Chathurangani representing Sri Lanka participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> CISM Military World Cadet Games, held at Caracas, Venezuela from 19 to 24 August 2024 and was able to achieve a triumphant victory at the Long Jump event with a recorded achievement of 5.24m. Having shielded one Gold medal and two Bronze medals, the Sri Lanka Cadet team was accordingly able to win the 6<sup>th</sup> place at the 4<sup>th</sup> CISM Military World Cadet Games. Presently, she is undergoing advanced military training at the Sri Lanka Military Academy (SLMA) Diyatalawa under Intake KDU 93 B.

The International Military Sport Organization (CISM) plays a significant role in promoting friendship among military personnel worldwide while bringing them together through various sports activities as well as competitions.



## Inter Regiment Karate Championship -2024



The Army Inter Regiment Karate Championship tournament, was successfully held from 19 - 23 July 2024 at Panagoda Army Gymnasium in the presence of the Chairman of Army Karate Committee, Major General S W M Fernando WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc the Commander, Security Forces (West) and Colonel Commandant of Sri Lanka Armoured Corps (SLAC).

Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment clinched the Men's Championship Trophy pushing the Sri Lanka Light Infantry to runners up. The Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps secured the Women's Championship pushing Sri Lanka Signal Corps as the Runner-up. Corporal Kumara S A M D P of Sri Lanka Light Infantry awarded as the Best Player (Men's Title) and Corporal Premachandra D M R of Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps awarded as the Best Female Player (Women's Title).





## Canoeing Competition at 56 Infantry Division Troops



Canoeing Competition was held on 24 July 2024 at Peyadikulam Wewa at Kokeliya under the guidance of Major General S Kasthurimudali RSP ndc psc, General Officer Commanding, 56 Infantry Division. The troops of 562 Infantry Brigade organised the event with the intention of fostering sportsmanship, cultivating camaraderie and cooperation among each. The General Officer Commanding, 56 Infantry Division graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The event was held under three categories as single, double, triple sculler events. The generous collaboration of the 'Rambawetti Nanneer' local fishing society provided the required boats for the competition. The winners were awarded trophies and cash incentives by the Chief Guest. Senior Officers, Officers, Other Ranks and civilians witnessed the occasion.

## Army Swimmers Earned Overall Championship



The National 5 km and 10km Open Water Swimming Championship - 2024 was successfully held on 20 and 21 July 2024 at Naval Dockyard, Trincomalee. 40 male and 10 female swimmers participated in the competition by representing schools and sports clubs in the area. Earning the pride to the organisation, Sri Lanka Army male and female teams clinched the championship titles, showcasing their exceptional skills and dedication.

## Inter Factory Netball Tournament - 2024 At Ranaviru Apparel Alawwa



Ranaviru Apparel (RVAPL) held Annual Inter Factory Netball Tournament at the Alawwa Ranaviru Apparel Factory premises on 12 July 2024. During the Netball Tournament, Yakkala Factory team won the women's Championship Trophy defeating their Alawwa Factory counterparts. RVAPL Alawwa became runners-up. Brigadier M G A N B Mahathuwakkara, Commandant, RVAPL graced the ceremony as the Chief Guest and awarded the certificates and trophies for the winners. Deputy Commandant, Managers of both factories were also present at the occasion. Further, Mr. Buddika Wickramage, Head of Marketing and Activation of 4ever Skin Naturals (Pvt) Ltd also attended to distribute gift vouchers.

## Inter Battalion Carrom Championship at SLSR



Inter Regiment Carrom Championship organised by 21<sup>st</sup> Battalion of Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment was successfully held in Regimental Headquarters – Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment, Ambepussa on 18 -19 July 2024. The event was held under the patronage of Brigadier C S Thibbotuge, Centre Commandant of Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment. 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion of Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment secured the Championship from Double Matches, while 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment secured the Runner- up position.





## Inter Regiment Cycling Tournament 2024



The Sri Lanka Army Inter-Regiment Cycling Tournament was successfully took place from 24 to 25 July 2024, at the Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (SLEME) Base Workshop in Udawalawe. Major General S P A I M B Samarakoon Hdmc Lsc, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Sri Lanka Army and Colonel Commandant of SLEME graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. A total of 140 cyclists from 11 Regiments, competed across a variety of categories, including individual time trials, standard and racing cycle races, a women's standard cycle race, and an over-50 age group race. Beating all, SLEME emerged as the overall champion with 118 points, pushing the Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment to the position of runner-up with 28 points. Lance Corporal Marapperuma A D of SLEME won the first place in the standard cycle event, while Lance Corporal Fernando W R M of the Army Women's Corps, won the women's standard cycle event. Army Cycling Committee organised the event.

## Inter Regiment Volleyball Championship - 2024

The finals of Inter Regiment Volleyball Championship - 2024 was successfully held at the Panagoda Army Gymnasium under the patronage of Major General J P C Peiris RWP RSP ndc, the Commander of Security Forces (Wanni), Chairman of the Army Volleyball Committee, and Colonel of the Regiment of Special Forces on 25 July 2024.

Major General S R B Aluvihare RWP RSP ndu psc, the Chief of Staff of Sri Lanka Army graced the occasion as the Chief Guest by witnessing the finals of the Super League encounter between the Sri Lanka Artillery (SLA) and Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps (SLAOC) players. 19 Male teams and 04 Female Teams in the Army representing various Regiments participated in the tournament which was held from 25 June 2024 to 02 July 2024 at Panagoda.



Beating their rival, Sri Lanka Artillery team finally emerged victorious with the Super League championship, while Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps and Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment emerged as runners-up and second runners-up respectively.

Players in the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps (SLASC) and the Sri Lanka National Guard (SLNG) competed in the 'A' Division for supremacy earlier before the final match kicked off as the highlight of the tournament. The Sri Lanka Army Service Corps team won the 'A' Division trophy while Sri Lanka National Guard team secured the runners-up slot in the tournament respectively.

In the tournament, women players from the Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps (SLAGSC) and the Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps (SLAWC) competed in the 'A' Division. The SLAGSC team emerged victorious, securing the 'A' Division trophy, while the SLAWC team achieved runners-up.

Major General B K G M L Rodrigo RSP psc IG, the Commander Security Forces (Central) and the Colonel Commandant of Sri Lanka Artillery, Major General J P C Peiris RWP RSP ndc, the Commander of Security Forces (Wanni) and the Colonel of the Regiment of Special Forces, Brigadier W W K Rohan RSP USP, Vice Chairman of Volleyball Committee, Senior Officers, Officers, Other Ranks and volleyball fans witnessed the competition.





# BELLATOR



Why did the scarecrow become a successful neurosurgeon?

Because he was outstanding in his field and knew how to work on brains!



What did the philosopher say to the hot air balloon?

"You're full of hot air, but at least you're rising above it!"



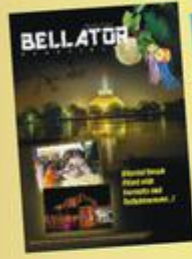
## SUDOKU PUZZLE QUESTION

### 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  
KAN Rasika Kumara ndc psc



ADVISOR

Lieutenant Colonel  
MIS Chandrakumara  
USP psc IG



EDITOR

Captain  
KVN Lakmali SLAGSC

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### BELLATOR ADDRESS

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

### EMAIL

slarmymedia@gmail.com  
ranaviruwa@yahoo.com

### TELEPHONE

+ 94 011 2993076

### READ ONLINE



### PUBLICATION

Directorate of Media and Psychological Operations  
Sri Lanka Army





# Army Inter-Regiment Combat Firing Tournament 2024

The certificate and trophies awarding ceremony for the Army Inter-Regiment Combat Firing Tournament 2024 was held on 30 August 2024 at the Sri Lanka Military Academy, Sino-Lanka Friendship Auditorium. Major General S R B Aluvihare RWP RSP ndu psc, Chief of Staff of the Sri Lanka Army, graced the event as the Chief Guest. The event organised in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Army Small Arms Association and the Marksmen and Sniper Training School was held at the Diyatalawa Firing Range from 16 to 25 August 2024. The competition featured 37 teams representing 23 Regiments, competing across open, novice, and regimental categories.

Major General S P A I M B Samarakoon Hdmc Lsc, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Sri Lanka Army, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks participated in the event. During the tournament, Special Forces earned the Open Team Championship pushing Gajaba Regiment to runners-up. Special Forces again clinched Novice Team Championship pushing Commando Regiment to runners-up. Sri Lanka Army Corps of Military Police gained the Service Regiment Championship while Sri Lanka Army Service Corps secured runners-up. Brigadier H A A N C Prabhath RSP USP was awarded as the Best Shooter in Flag Officer Category while Colonel D C S K Athukorala RSP was awarded as the most talented Senior Officer. Meanwhile, Lieutenant P W S N Jayasingha, Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment was awarded as the Best Marksman of the Novice Category. Also, Lance Corporal Sandakalum H A T of the 3 Special Forces was awarded as the All-Round Best Shooter while Corporal Dissanayake K D M D, Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps was awarded as the Best Female Shooter.





# Soldiers Ready for Invisible Threat



*The heroic memories.....*

Though a soldier's journey stretches long, his spirit stands unwavering, prepared for every shadow and storm. He rises before the dawn, for readiness is his soul and body. The burdens he carries are heavy, yet essential as each item a shield against the uncertain fate of war. His life, safeguarded by this vigilance, where others have fallen. Rare memories of a battle linger in distance cry, reminding the 'preparedness is the foundation for both sword and solace'.

