

OCTOBER 2024 42nd Issue



BELLATOR

R A N A V I R U W A



Sri Lanka Army
Proudly
Celebrated **TH**
75
Anniversary



Commander of the Army Pays a Formal Courtesy Call on the New President

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army paid a formal courtesy call on His Excellency Anura Kumara Dissanayake, the 9th Executive President of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Commander-in-Chief of Armed Forces on 04 October 2024 at the Presidential Secretariat. During the courtesy visit, the Commander of the Army extended his warmest congratulations and best wishes to the newly appointed President. Further, the Commander of the Army assured the unwavering commitment of the Sri Lanka Army to ensure the stability and security of the country to the President while explaining the present status of troops readiness.

Commander of the Army Pays Courtesy Call on New Prime Minister

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army paid a formal courtesy call on the newly-appointed Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Honourable Dr. Harini Amarasuriya, at her office in Colombo on 24 October 2024.

During the meeting, the Commander of the Army extended his congratulations to the Honourable Prime Minister and reaffirmed the Army's steadfast support to ensure the national security and development of the country. At the end of the cordial interaction, the Commander of the Army presented a memento to Prime Minister as a gesture of goodwill.



Commander of the Army Meets New Secretary of Defence



Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army paid a courtesy call on the new Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, Air Vice Marshal Sampath Thuyacontha (Retd) WWV, RWP and two Bars, RSP and Bar, USP, MMSc (Strat Stu- China), MSc (Def Stu) in Mgt, MSc (Def & Strat Stu), fndu (China), psc at the Ministry of Defence on 02 October 2024. During the meeting, the Commander of the Army expressed his fullest cooperation to the Ministry of Defence to ensure the security of the country. Further, they both exchanged the views on security concerns and other related developments.

The newly appointed Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, Air Vice Marshal Sampath Thuyacontha (Retd) WWV, RWP and two Bars, RSP and Bar, USP, MMSc (Strat Stu - China), MSc (Def Stu) in Mgt, MSc (Def & Strat Stu), fndu (China), psc, paid a formal courtesy visit to the Commander of the Army at the Army Headquarters on 28 October 2024.

Troops of Sri Lanka Light Infantry warmly welcomed the Secretary, Ministry of Defence upon his arrival according him a Guard of Honour. Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army, warmly welcomed the Secretary, Ministry of Defence to the Army Headquarters and introduced the Principal Staff Officers of the Sri Lanka Army. Later, during their formal meeting in the Commander's Office, the Secretary, Ministry of Defence and the Commander of the Army discussed matters of mutual importance and interest.

Following the meeting, the Secretary, Ministry of Defence addressed the members serving in the Army and appreciated the service rendered by the members of the Sri Lanka Army safeguarding the country's territorial integrity and sovereignty. Also, he highlighted the Army's pivotal role in ensuring peace and stability while emphasising the importance of maintaining the operational effectiveness and decorum in the face of challenges.

Newly Appointed Secretary to the Ministry of Defence Visits Army Headquarters





Multiple Religious Blessings for Army Day

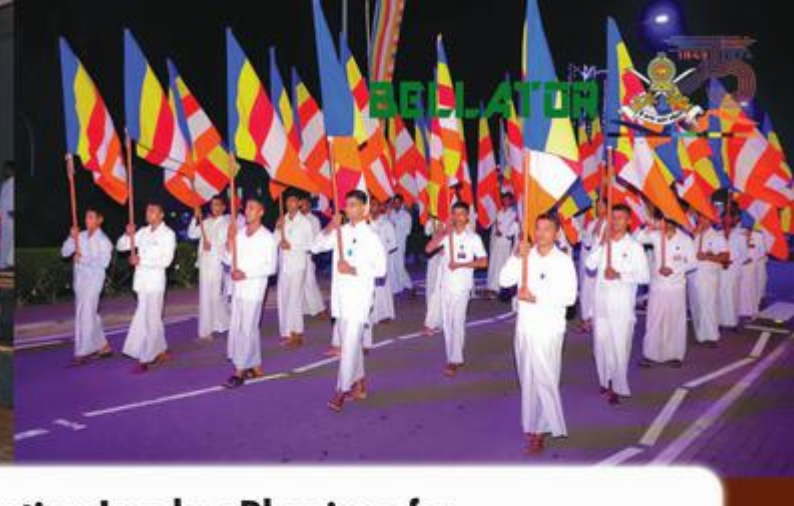
In line with the 75th Anniversary of the Sri Lanka Army, a special Mass took place at All Saints' Church, Borella on 4 October 2024. The event was conducted under the guidance of His Eminence Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith, Archbishop of Colombo. Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army and Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit attended the Mass upon the invitation of Major General B K G M L Rodrigo RSP psc IG, Commandant of the Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force and Chairman of the Army Christian Fellowship.

During the ceremony, His Eminence Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith blessed the Army Flag and other organisational flags in a symbolic gesture through a special offering. At the conclusion of the Mass, the Commander of the Army presented a financial donation to the clergy as a token of the gratitude for the Church's contributions to promoting spiritual values, reconciliation, and peace among the public.

Additionally, a special 'Aashirwada' Pooja (blessing ceremony) in line with Hindu tradition was held on 2 October 2024 at the Mayurapathi Sri Bhadrakali Amman Kovil, Colombo 06 to invoke blessings for the 75th Anniversary of the Sri Lanka Army. The ceremony organised by the Sri Lanka Army Hindu Association, was graced by Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army following an invitation from Major General K M P S B Kulatunga RSP ndc psc, Military Secretary and Chairman of the Army Hindu Association. Chief Kurukkal Sivasri Ragavan Kurukkal, along with other Hindu priests, performed the 'Pooja' rituals.

After the religious observances, the Commander of the Army made a cash donation to the Kovil's Chairman, Mr. Sundaralingam, to support its development work, on behalf of all those serving in the organisation.





All-Night 'Pirith' Chanting Invokes Blessings for 75th Army Anniversary



The traditional all-night 'Pirith' chanting ceremony, marking the final religious observance in line with the 75th Army Anniversary took place at the Army Headquarters on 05 October 2024, ahead of its official schedule on 10 October 2024. The event was graced by Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army along with Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU).



The proceedings of the all-night 'Pirith' chanting ceremony began with the placement of sacred relic casket by the Commander of the Army in a colourful procession while Major General W P A D W Nanayakkara RSP VSV USP ndu, the Chief of Staff of Sri Lanka Army proceeded the 'Sacred Piruvana Potha' for the ceremony. Most Venerable Dr. Kirinde Assaji Thero, Chief incumbent of the Gangaramaya Temple played the key role of the religious event and Venerable Bengamuwe Dhammadinna Thero, Chief Incumbent of Sri Pada delivered an oration. An alms giving held in the following morning marked the official conclusion of the event.



A solemn and dignified ceremony will be held annually at the Battaramulla War Heroes' Monument (Ranaviru Smarakaya) in commemoration of the selfless service rendered by fallen War Heroes who sacrificed their lives to eradicate terrorism from the country fifteen years ago in line with the 75th Anniversary of the Sri Lanka Army.

War Heroes' Commemoration Held in Battaramulla War Heroes' Monument

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army graced the War Heroes' commemoration ceremony as the Chief Guest, lending prestige to this formal and commemorative occasion. The traditional sounding of the "Last Post" resonated through the air as the Army's trumpeters played the solemn melody, marking the memory of the fallen as dusk settled over the area symbolising the Army's unwavering commitment to honour the War Heroes, affirming the solemn promise to remember them as long as the sun rises and sets.

The Chief of Staff, Deputy Chief of Staff, Commandant of the Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force, Principal Staff Officers, Security Force Commanders, and other Senior Officers paid their respects laying floral wreaths at the War Heroes' Monument, paying tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

A solemn and dignified ceremony was held at the 'Battaramulla War Heroes' Monument (Ranaviru Smarakaya) in commemoration of the selfless service rendered by fallen War Heroes who sacrificed their lives to eradicate terrorism from the country in line with the 75th Anniversary of the Sri Lanka Army under the patronage of Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army.





Another event of multi religious observances was successfully held at Colpetty Jumma Mosque on 3 October 2024 to invoke blessings for the forthcoming 75th Army Anniversary. Many Officers and Other Ranks of Islamic faith joined the event. Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army graced the event as the Chief Guest for the occasion at the invitation of Brigadier T N Majeed RSP USP ndc Isc, along with the members of the Board of Trustees at Colpetty Jumma Mosque.

During the customary Islamic religious sermon, 'Bayan,' blessings were symbolically invoked on the Army flags

Islamic Prayers Held at Jumma Mosque



and the flags of other organisations. Later, Moulavi performing the special 'Qirath', 'Dua,' prayers blessed the Sri Lanka Army.

After the culmination of the special Islamic religious ceremony, the Commander of the Army made a financial donation towards the development of the religious premises and shared his views with the Moulavis on co-existence, harmony, and reconciliation.

New Multi-Facility Complex Inaugurates



Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army inaugurated the newly constructed multi-facility complex for the Officers and Other Ranks of the Sri Lanka Army at Maitland Place on 30 October 2024.

This 5 story building complex includes two restaurants, a

banquet hall, luxury rooms and a ground-floor car park. Further, this complex offers exceptional services to all Officers and Other Ranks improving the multi-facilities for members of the Sri Lanka Army. The 6 Corps of Engineer Services, under the guidance of the Directorate of Engineer Services, provided both workforce and technical support for the construction. The President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit, the Chief of Staff, Deputy Chief of Staff, Officers and Other Ranks participated in the event.





Sri Lanka Army Celebrates Diamond Jubilee

The Sri Lanka Army marked its 75th Anniversary on 10 October 2024 at the Army Cantonment, Panagoda. This milestone commemorated its sustained efforts against terrorism which have brought lasting peace to the nation after more than three decades of conflict. Also, the event is considered as a pledge of the Army to continue its dedicative role to ensure the National Security as a legitimate Defender of the Nation.

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army, graced the event as the Chief Guest to the event coloured with fluttering multi-coloured flags, including the Army flag, regimental flags, and flags of those of various formations.

Major General W P A D W Nanayakkara RSP VSV USP ndu, Chief of Staff together with Major General C S Munasinghe WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc IG, Adjutant General warmly welcomed Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army and Mrs Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit extending a hearty welcome.

Remembering the Brave War Heroes, the Commander of the Army appreciated the gallantry and bravery and selflessness of the War Heroes and marked that their sacrifices would be immortal.

75 Officers and 626 Other Ranks from all 25 Regiments joined the parade which was held under the leadership of Major General A H LG Amarapala RWP RSP ndc psc, the Commander, Security Forces (West) and Colonel Commandant of Sri Lanka Engineers and Brigadier G A T Godewatte RWP RSP, Centre Commandant of the Gajaba Regiment, as the Parade Second-in-Command. The Sri Lanka Army 75th Anniversary Commemoration Medal was also awarded for 35 Officers and 25 Other Ranks.





Musical Event at 'Mihindu Seth Medura' for 75th Anniversary of the Sri Lanka Army

In celebration of the upcoming 75th Anniversary of the Sri Lanka Army, a musical event was organised on 8 October 2024 to honour the War Heroes currently undergoing rehabilitation and recovery at 'Mihindu Seth Medura'. The event was graced by Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army and Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, the President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU).

The Army Beat Band along with renowned musical artists delivered live performances at the occasion where 75 resident War Heroes took part. The event was included with an enthusiastic wheelchair dance as part of the festivities. The event concluded with a dinner attended by distinguished guests and War Heroes.

The Chief of Staff, Deputy Chief of Staff, Senior Officers, their spouses, as well as Officers and Other Ranks, participated in this heartfelt tribute.



KDU Celebrates Annual Convocation Ceremony at BMICH



The General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) held its annual convocation ceremony on 14 and 15 October 2024 at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH). Graduates from various academic fields, including Strategic Studies and International Relations, Medicine, Engineering, Law, Management, Allied Health Sciences, Built Environment and Spatial Sciences, and Computing, received their certificates after successfully completing their programmes.

A total of 1,728 graduates were awarded PhDs, Master's degrees, Bachelor's degrees, and Postgraduate Diplomas during the ceremony. Air Vice Marshal Sampath Thuyacontha (Retd) WWV, RWP and two Bars, RSP and Bar, USP, MMSc (Strat Stu-China), MSc (Def Stu) in Mgt, MSc (Def & Strat Stu), fndu (China), psc, Secretary to the Ministry of Defence graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The event was also attended by the Chief of Defence Staff, the Commander of the Army, Commanders of the Navy and Air Force, the acting Inspector General of Police, Heads of Universities, Government Officials, KDU's Academic Staff, Tri-service Officers, as well as the parents of the graduates.



Gajaba Regiment Marks 41st Anniversary with Commemorative Ceremonies in Saliyapura

The Gajaba Regiment (GR) celebrated its 41st Anniversary at the "Home of Keterians" in Saliyapura, Anuradhapura with a series of special events from 13 to 14 October 2024. An all-night 'Pirith' chanting ceremony was held invoking blessings for the fallen War Heroes of the regiment. Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu,

Commander of the Army attended this significant occasion as the Chief Guest, at the invitation of Major General M G W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc, Commander, Security Forces (Jaffna) and Colonel of the Regiment of the Gajaba Regiment.

During the religious ceremony, the Senior Thero delivered an oration, emphasising the invaluable role of the Army's leadership and the contributions of the Gajaba Regiment during critical moments in the Nation's history. The Chief Guest also took the opportunity to share his thoughts with the relatives of the fallen War Heroes, offering his condolences and appreciation for their sacrifices.





Army Day Fellowship Dinner Held at Panagoda

The spirit of camaraderie and fellowship within the Sri Lanka Army was celebrated on 10 October 2024 at a special dinner held at Army Cantonment, Panagoda to mark Army Day. Officers and Other Ranks from all 25 Regiments came together for this annual event which was graced by Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army as the Chief Guest.

The fellowship dinner which was first introduced in 2009, has become a cherished tradition associated with the Army's anniversary celebrations. It provides an opportunity for All Ranks to gather in an informal setting, exchange pleasantries, and reflect on their shared experiences in service.

During the event, the Commander of the Army engaged with Senior Non-Commissioned Officers further strengthening the bonds of unity and camaraderie within the ranks. Additionally, the Commander of the Army presented the First Day Cover and the 75th Anniversary Stamp to the Regimental Sergeant Majors of each regiment, marking a significant milestone in the Army's history.

The evening was a celebration of the enduring values that have guided the Sri Lanka Army through the years with the values of loyalty, service, and the shared experiences of military life. With the participation of all 25 regiments, the event served as a testament to the Army's dedication to the defence and well-being of the nation.





New Facilities for Officers & Other Ranks of SLNG

Newly constructed accommodation facilities at the Sri Lanka National Guard Regimental Headquarter Battalion premises at Heraliyawala, Kurunegala was declared open by Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army and Colonel of the Regiment, Sri Lanka National Guard (SLNG) along with Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, the President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit on 11 October 2024

The Commander of the Army graced the occasion at the invitation of the Brigadier H A Keerthinatha RSP KSP psc, Centre Commandant, SLNG and then inspected the newly-constructed a three-storey accommodation facility (Dream House) for SLNG Other Ranks. The infrastructure facilitates the accommodations for 350 soldiers.

Afterward, the Commander of the Army donated a wheelchair to a disabled soldier, Private Kumarawansa P H S, a representative of the Wheelchair Cricket Association of Sri Lanka. Simultaneously, the Commander of the Army officially inaugurated the Senior Officers' Accommodation (Mountain View) building and commended the SLNG troops for their efforts and their successful completion of the project at a minimal cost.



International Taekwondo Demonstration (Kukkiwon)

The International Taekwondo Demonstration (Kukkiwon) took place on 23 October 2024 at the Army Physical Training School (APTS) with the patronage of Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army. Her Excellency Miyon Lee, the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Sri Lanka, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. During the event, the Commander of the Army presented awards to key figures including the Korean Ambassador and the Kukkiwon demonstration team. The event featured a taekwondo demonstration and performances of the Sri Lanka Army Dancing troupe.

During the segment marking a historic moment, Her Excellency conferred an honorary Dan on Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army in appreciation of his dedicative service towards the wellbeing of the Taekwondo becoming the first Commander of the Army to receive such an honour.

The Korean Ambassador during her closing remarks highlighted the strong ties between Sri Lanka and Korea, emphasising the importance of cultural exchanges and cooperation in promoting mutual understanding and friendship.





New Home from Sri Lanka Army

In line with the 75th Anniversary of the Sri Lanka Army, the troops of 2nd Mechanized Infantry Regiment (2 MIR) constructed a new home for a deserving family on 27 September 2024 in Niliyamotei, Purawasamkulam, Vavuniya.

The new housing project was launched under the supervision of Major General W M S C K Wanasinghe RSP USP, the General Officer Commanding, 21 Infantry Division and bestowed to Mrs. M Sadanandan Kumari during a symbolic flag blessing ceremony held at the Sri Maha Bodhiya, Anuradhapura. Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and personally presented the key to the beneficiary.

Commander Pays Last Respect to Late Colonel D M B P B Dissanayaka RSP USP of the Sri Lanka Artillery (SLA)

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army paid his last tribute to Late Colonel D M B P B Dissanayaka RSP USP of the Sri Lanka Artillery (SLA) on 7 October 2024 at Jayaratne VIP Parlour. Colonel D M B P B Dissanayaka RSP USP of the Sri Lanka Artillery (SLA) deceased due to a brief illness. Further, the Commander of the Army interacted with the family members of the Senior Officer, extending his heartfelt condolences to them at their time of grief.



Late Colonel D M B P B Dissanayaka RSP USP, enlisted in the Sri Lanka Army Regular Force with Intake 45 on 15 July 1996. Upon successful completion of basic military training at the Sri Lanka Military Academy, Diyatalawa, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and posted to the Sri Lanka Artillery on 20 June 1998. Throughout his career, he held various appointments and steadily elevated to subsequent ranks, ultimately reaching the rank of Colonel on 18 May 2024. He held the appointment of Colonel (Enlistment) of the Directorate of the Personnel Administration at the time of his demise.



The Commander of the Army Delivers Commander's Lecture at National Defence College



Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army delivered the customary Commander's Lecture at National Defence College (NDC) under the theme of "Sri Lanka Army Concerns on National Security" on 24 October 2024.

During the lecture, the Commander of the Army educated the audience on the future security challenges and concerns faced by the Sri Lanka Army while providing a comprehensive account on the future transformation initiatives of the Sri Lanka Army. Further, student Officers were facilitated to engage with the Commander of the Army through queries and clarifications.

The National Security and Strategic Studies Course No. 03-2024 includes 16 Officers from the Army, 08 from the Navy, 06 from the Air Force, 03 from the Police, and 08 foreign students representing Saudi Arabia, India, Bangladesh, and Oman.

Major General D G S Senarath Yapa RWP RSP ndu, the Commandant NDC warmly welcomed the Commander of the Army while Brigadier M J R S Medagoda RSP USP ndc psc IG, the Senior Directing Staff (Army), conducted the introductory speech.

Turkish Ambassador Meets Commander of the Army



His Excellency Semih Lütfü Turgut, Ambassador of the Republic of Türkiye to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Republic of Maldives met Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army on 25 October 2024 at the Army Headquarters.

The cordial discussions focused on matters of mutual interest, including the longstanding diplomatic ties between two Nations and common challenges that need to be mitigated together. Both parties emphasised the significance of maintaining strong bilateral relations and exploring potential avenues for further cooperation. In a gesture of goodwill, the both exchanged special mementoes to the Ambassador and the gesture was reciprocated.

Lanil Galaboda Memorial 'Sanghawasaya' (residential monastery) Declared Open

The inauguration ceremony of the newly constructed Lanil Galaboda Memorial 'Sanghawasaya' (residential monastery) was held on 13 October 2024. Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the Commander of the Army, along with Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit, attended the opening ceremony at the invitation of Most Venerable Gataberikande Rathanasiri Nayaka Thero. The construction of the monastery was a collaborative effort between the Sri Lanka Army and financial donors Mr. G K Jinadasa and Mrs. Chandra Piyaseeli Amarasena. Troops of Sri Lanka Army extended the much-required manpower and technical expertise for the construction.



Indian Delegation Meets Chief of Staff

Colonel Kedar Dattatraya Gupta, Directing Staff at College of Defence Management (CDM) in India (Head of the Delegation) along with Group Captain Dipendra Bhadoria, Colonel Kunal Ramesh Lonari, and Lieutenant Colonel Mandeep Singh Negi met Major General W P A D W Nanayakkara RSP VSV USP ndu, the Chief of Staff of the Sri Lanka Army at the Army Headquarters on 14 October 2024.

During the interactive discussion, the Chief of Staff shared insightful thoughts that are significant for both nations including goodwill, cooperation, and understanding between the armed forces of their respective countries.





Mother Regiment Felicitates the Newly Appointed Chief of Staff



In line with the 68th anniversary of the Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment, a felicitation ceremony was held for newly appointed Chief of Staff of the Sri Lanka Army, Major General W P A D W Nanayakkara RSP VSV USP ndu on 01 October 2024 at the Regimental Centre of the Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment.



The Chief of Staff of the Sri Lanka Army who attended the event amidst the military honours paid his tribute offering a floral tribute for the War Heroes Monument in memory of all valiant War Heroes of Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment who made the supreme sacrifice for the motherland. After addressing the troops, the Chief of Staff of the Sri Lanka Army joined all ranks tea.

Indian Assistant Defence Adviser Meets Chief of Staff



Lieutenant Colonel Mandeep Singh Negi, SM, the Assistant Defence Adviser at the High Commission of India in Colombo on 03 October 2024 paid a courtesy call on the Chief of Staff, Major General W P A D W Nanayakkara RSP VSV USP ndu at the Army Headquarters.

The Chief of Staff and the Assistant Defence Adviser at the High Commission of India shared important matters on enhancing the bonds of goodwill, cooperation, and understanding between armed forces of both nations.

Australian Delegation Meets Chief of Staff



An Australian delegation led by Colonel Lara Troy CSC, along with Colonel Amanda Johnston (Defence Attaché), Colonel Emma Marie Thomas (New Zealand) and Colonel Andrew Gordon Temple Kirby from the Defence and Strategic Course 2024 paid courtesy call on Major General W P A D W Nanayakkara RSP VSV USP ndu, the Chief of Staff of the Sri Lanka Army at Army Headquarters on 21 October 2024.

During the discussions, the Chief of Staff shared valuable insights, and both parties acknowledged the strong bonds of friendship, cooperation, and mutual understanding between their nations' armed forces. Major General K M P S B Kulatunga RSP ndc psc, Military Secretary, also participated in the occasion.

Commander of 1 Corps Visits his Under-Command Formations



Major General M T I Mahalekam WWV RWP RSP USP ndu psc, the Commander of 1 Corps visited the 58 Infantry Division, 583 and 581 Infantry Brigades, Headquarters of the Commando Brigade, 4 Commando Regiment and 5 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment on 26, 28 and 29 October 2024.

During his visit, the Senior Officer inspected the Division, Brigades and Battalions and addressed the troops at each location. Further, the Commander, 1 Corps discussed key issues, including the importance of avoiding illegal activities, maintaining a healthy work-life balance, upholding military discipline, proactive planning, and operational readiness in support of the 1 Corps mission.





Commander, Security Forces (Jaffna) Gifts Two New Houses

Troops of 6 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment (SLSR) and 14 Sri Lanka National Guard (SLNG) constructed new houses for two deserving families in Kilinochchi and Paranthan areas. The initiative was taken place under the directions of Major General R K N C Jayawardena RSP ndc, the General Officer Commanding, 55 Infantry Division and supervision of Colonel W A I S Mendis RSP USP, the Commander, 553 Infantry Brigade. Major General M G W W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc, Commander, Security Forces (Jaffna) handed over the keys of the both houses to the beneficiaries during a simple occasion making their housing dream a reality. Also, this marks another successful conclusion of a housing project launched in Jaffna following the conceptual notion of the Commander, Security Forces (Jaffna).



The traditional Katina Pooja ceremony of Sri Naga Viharaya in Jaffna took place on 26 and 27 October 2024 under the guidance of Shashtrapathi, Venerable Meegahajandure Sirivimala Thero, with the assistance of the 51 Infantry Division. The Pooja ceremony was successfully held under the guidance of Major General M G W W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc, the Commander Security Forces (Jaffna), and supervision of Major General W B J K Wimalaratne RWP RSP, the General Officer Commanding of the 51 Infantry Division.

Senior Officers, Officers, and Other Ranks of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Police, Special Task Force, extended their assistance to make the religious event successful. Government officials, religious dignitaries, and many devotees took part in the event.

Traditional Katina Pooja Ceremony at Sri Naga Viharaya, Jaffna



Shelter for Residents from Sri Lanka Army

Under the directives of Major General J P C Peiris RWP RSP ndc, the Commander of Security Forces (Wanni), the housing project to fulfil the dream for a house of the civilians in the region was implemented with the participation of troops of the units and other formations deployed in the area. Accordingly these houses were bestowed for the beneficiaries.



Handing over a new house constructed at Thisawewa – West in Anuradhapura under the directions of Major H M S J Bandara, Commanding Officer, 2 Corps of Engineer Services on 15.10.2024



Vesting the refurbished house at Mankadawala under the directions of Major M P D C Sikururajapathi USP psc Lsc, Commanding Officer, 5 Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers on 15.10.2024



Handing over a new house constructed at Parasangaswewa under the directions of Major M P E M Abeykoon psc Lsc Ato, Commanding Officer, 2 Sri Lanka Ordnance Corps on 15.10.2024



Vesting the refurbished house at Mankadawala under the directions of Major C S K Liyanage psc, Commanding Officer, 4 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment on 12.10.2024



House warming at Jeewanagar, Murukkan under the directions of Major S H R G De Silva RSP psc, Commanding Officer, 8 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment on 12.10.2024



Vesting the refurbished house at Sittivalayankaddu, Vavuniya under the directions of Major B G R Gamlathge RWP RSP, Commanding Officer, 12 (V) Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment on 02.10.2024

A New House for a Deserving Family in Alawakumbura

A new house was constructed for a needy family in Alawakumbura Grama Niladhari Division under the directions of Major General W P Kariyawasam, the General Officer Commanding, 23 Infantry Division and the supervision of Colonel M G A Malandeniya, Commander, 231 Infantry Brigade RSP on 04 October 2024.

The troops of the 12 Gemunu Watch (GW) constructed a new house extending their manpower and technical expertise, and People's Bank extended the much required financial sponsorship for the project. Major General S A Kulatunge RWP RSP VSV USP psc, the Commander of Security Forces (East) handed over the keys to the beneficiary gracing the housewarming ceremony as the Chief Guest.



Certificate Awarding Ceremony of Tamil Language Course No. 01 - 2024

The Certificate Awarding Ceremony for the Tamil Language Course No. 01-2024, organised by the Sri Lanka Army was held on 01 October 2024 at the Cultural Centre, Welikanda. Major General S A Kulatunge RWP RSP VSV USP psc, the Commander of Security Force Headquarters (East), graced the event as the Chief Guest, and presented certificates to 178 students from Sinhapura Kanishta Vidyalaya and Nelum Wewa Maha Vidyalaya.

The ceremony which was enriched of cultural performances by the students, was attended by Divisional Secretary of Welikanda, Senior Officers, Officers, Other Ranks, and parents.



Commander Security Forces (West) Honours Heroes Saved a Life



In recognition of the swift and brave initiatives exhibited by a team of 3rd (V) Gemunu Watch, a special ceremony to appreciate and honour their bravery effort was held in the presence of Major General A H L G Amarapala RWP RSP ndc psc, the Commander Security Forces (West), at the Security Force Headquarters (West) on 02 October 2024.

Accordingly, the Commander Security Forces (West) awarded certificates for Major S Indika GW, Sergeant Daluwaththa A D, Private Jayasingha D M U S, Private Warnakulasuriya W M S, and Private Lakmal K L T, the members of the team who were on the rescue operation. The War Heroes had exhibited their bravery and social responsibility saving a life setting an example of courage and a great pride to the Sri Lanka Army.



Commander Security Forces (West) Visits 572 Infantry Brigade

Major General A H L G Amarapala RWP RSP ndc psc, Commander, Security Forces (West), conducted an official visit to 572 Infantry Brigade on 24 October 2024. The visit began with an inspection of a newly proposed land area for the possible relocation of the Brigade Headquarters. During the site inspection, the Commander, Security Forces (West) instructed the Brigade Commander to carry out a detailed threat assessment and emphasised the importance of strategic planning and efficient use of resources in relocating the headquarters.

The Commander, Security Forces (West) was warmly welcomed by Brigadier K T P De Silva RSP ndu psc, General Officer Commanding, 61 Infantry Division. Colonel A P A D D Dharmakeerthi RWP RSP USP psc ptsc, the Commander, 572 Infantry Brigade briefed the Commander, Security Forces (West) on the Area of responsibility and tasks and entrusted including duties. Further, he visited 8 Gemunu Watch and addressed the troops. The Commander, Security Forces (West), also inspected the operational readiness of the disaster relief equipment at the 8 Battalion Gemunu Watch, ensuring preparedness for any emergencies.





Commander, Security Forces (Central) Visits 12 Infantry Division



Major General Y A B M Yahampath RWP RSP ndu psc, the Commander, Security Forces (Central) visited the 12 Infantry Division, 121 Infantry Brigade, 122 Infantry Brigade, 20 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment, 18 Gemunu Watch, 12 Gajaba Regiment, and 3 Sri Lanka National Guard on 30 and 31 October 2024. Major General P K W W M J S B W Pallekumbura RWP RSP ndu psc, the General Officer Commanding of the 12 Infantry Division, along with the Brigade Commanders and Commanding Officers warmly welcomed the Commander, Security Forces (Central) according him a Guard Turnouts.

Then the General Officer Commanding, Brigade Commanders, and Commanding Officers comprehensively briefed about the Area of Responsibility and their duties. Afterwards, he addressed the troops, highlighting the importance of engaging responsibly with social media, refraining from illegal activities, and managing personal finances effectively. During the visit, he also visited the President's House in Katharagama and Laya Hotel in Yala. Senior Officers, Officers, and Other Ranks participated in the visit.

Indian Higher Defence Management Course Representatives Meet Commander Security Forces (Central)

At a special segment of their visit to Sri Lanka, representatives of Higher Defence Management Course of India called on Major General Y A B M Yahampath RWP RSP ndu psc, the Commander, Security Forces (Central) on 17 October 2024 at the Security Forces Headquarters (Central), Diyatalawa.

Major General Y A B M Yahampath RWP RSP ndu psc, Commander, Security Forces (Central) warmly welcomed them to the premises and shared his thoughts on enhancing the cooperation and good will prevailing among the two armies.





Bomb and Improvised Explosive Devices Disposal Course Number - 08



The Passing Out Parade and certificate awarding ceremony of the Bomb and Improvised Explosive Devices Disposal (BIEDD) Course No. 08 was held at the Sri Lanka School of Military Engineering (SLSME) on 04 October 2024. Major General A H L G Amarapala RWP RSP ndc psc, the Commander Security Forces (West) and the Colonel Commandant of Corps of Sri Lanka Engineers graced the occasion as the Chief Guest at the invitation of Colonel J A C S Jagoda psc, the Commandant (Acting) of the Sri Lanka School of Military Engineering.

The Ceremony was unfolded with Improvised Explosive Devices Disposal demonstration conducted by the students. Following the demonstration, the Chief Guest pinned prestigious Bomb Disposal insignias on the passing out students along with the Commandant, of the Sri Lanka School of Military Engineering (Overlooking). The dignified ceremony celebrated the graduation of 1 Officer and 23 Soldiers of the Corps of Sri Lanka Engineers. Captain N R J Tudahewa earned the award of the First in Order of Merit.

Major General D B L Colonne USP, Major General T C Peiris RSP USP, Commander Sri Lanka Army Engineer Division, Brigadier S P G Gamage RWP RSP USP, Deputy General Officer Commanding, 12 Infantry Division, Colonel B A M P Balasooriya RSP, Centre Commandant of Corps of Sri Lanka Engineers (Acting) and Colonel K A S J Kodithuwakku USP ptsc, Commander Plant Engineer Brigade participated in the event.

Advance Disaster Response Training Course No. 12

The Advance Disaster Response Training Course No. 12 was successfully conducted from 30 September to 16 October 2024 at the Sri Lanka Army Centre for Disaster Response Training (SLACDRT) in Gampola. A total of 57 participants enhanced their skills and knowledge in disaster response and management during the course.

Captain N A S S Napagoda from the Sri Lanka Artillery was awarded First in Order of Merit for his exceptional performance during the course. Colonel R M H P K Rathnayake, Commandant of SLACDRT graced the closing ceremony and highlighted the importance of disaster preparedness and commended the dedication of the participants.



Workshop on Lead-Acid Battery Maintenance

A one-day workshop on the technical aspects and maintenance of lead-acid batteries for 25 Officers of the Sri Lanka Electrical & Mechanical Engineers (SLEME) was held on 11 October 2024 at the Elcardo factory in Ratmalana.

The workshop included a factory visit and a session focused on lead-acid battery production, manufacturing processes, and maintenance procedures. The training aimed to enhance the skills of EME personnel. The programme was initiated by the Director of Electrical & Mechanical Engineers to provide participants with valuable hands-on experience.



The United Nations Comprehensive Protection of Civilians Course No. 02 Concluded

The United Nations Comprehensive Protection of Civilians (CPOC) Course No. 02 sponsored by the Global Peace Operations Initiative (GPOI) successfully concluded on 04 October 2024 at the Institute of Peace Support Operations Training Sri Lanka (IPSOTSL). Accordingly, 23 Officers from the Sri Lanka Army, one from the Navy, two from the Air Force and five foreign Officers from Bangladesh, Mongolia and Nepal participated in the course held from 30 September to 04 October 2024.

A panel of four Subject Matter Experts led by Mr. Roger David Hughes from the United Kingdom, facilitated the training. Brigadier S A Hettige RSP psc, the Commandant of IPSOTSL graced the event as the Chief Guest and presented certificates to the participants during the closing ceremony. Senior Officers, Officers and instructors from IPSOTSL were also present at the occasion.



51 Infantry Division Vested a New House to a Needy Family in Jaffna

A new house constructed for Mr. Selvarasa Sudhakaran and his family in Chankanai, Jaffna was handed over to the beneficiary during a simple ceremony by Major General W B J K Wimalaratne RWP RSP, the General Officer Commanding of the 51 Infantry Division on 09 October 2024.

Philanthropist Mr. V Thabodharan extended much required financial assistance for the initiative. The troops of the 11th Battalion, Sri Lanka Light Infantry with their manpower and technical expertise successfully completed the housing project under the supervision of their Commanding Officer, Brigadier E M L P Ekanayake USP, Commander of the 513 Infantry Brigade directed the successful execution of the project.



Series of Community Programmes Celebrating 75th Anniversary



Series of community programmes were held in line with the 75th Anniversary of the Sri Lanka Army under the supervision of Colonel S M C S Samarathunga RSP, the Commander (Acting), 522 Infantry Brigade. Troops of 23 Gemunu Watch (GW) organised a special lunch for 18 children from Winayagar Pre-School on 10 October 2024 under the supervision of Major H G T J Hapurugala, Commanding Officer (Acting), 23 GW.



Further, troops of 10 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment offered lunch for the OPD patients and hospital staff of the Government Hospital in Maradankadawala under the supervision of Major S H Sudusinghe Commanding Officer, 10 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment. Also, troops of 1 Mechanised Infantry Regiment offered a delicious lunch for the children at Irambareyi and Adawan preschool in Muhavil Grama Niladhari Division.

11 Infantry Division Troops Participate in Blood Donation Campaign

Troops from the 11 Infantry Division participated in a blood donation programme with the cooperative assistance of Community Society of Digana at the Silver Cross Medical Centre on 12 October 2024 under the direction of Major General K A U Kodithuwakku RSP USP psc IG, the General Officer Commanding of the 11 Infantry Division. Civilians of the area took part in the event.

Medical teams from the Blood Bank of the District General Hospital, Kandy, ensured the smooth and successful execution of the blood donation drive, which further strengthened the collaboration between the military and the local community.



UNIFIL Commander Visits Injured Soldier in Tyre

Lieutenant General Aroldo Lazaro Saenz, the Head of Mission and Force Commander of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) along with Contingent Commander of the Sri Lanka Force Protection Unit (SLFPU), visited the Jabel Amel Hospital in Tyre, Lebanon on 12 October 2024. He inquired about the soldier injured during a conflict while on force protection duties at UNIFIL HQ in Naqoura.



During his visit, Lieutenant General Lazaro Saenz expressed his concern for the injured soldier and sought updates on his treatment progress. He also met the hospital's medical authorities, emphasising

the importance of high-quality care for UNIFIL personnel. Before leaving, he presented the soldier with a UNIFIL coin in recognition of his commitment and dedication. Additionally, he commended the medical staff for their efforts and encouraged them to continue their vital work in providing care to injured soldiers.



241 Infantry Brigade Distributes School Items



In line with the World Children's Day, the troops of the 241 Infantry Brigade organised a school items distribution programme on 04 October 2024 at the Amman Mahalirilla Children's Home in Akkaraipattu. This initiative was held under the guidance of Brigadier L S D N Pathiratna RSP USP, the Commander, 241 Infantry Brigade. Additionally, lunch was also provided for 34 students and staff of the children's home.

Sri Lankan Contingent Receives UN Peacekeeping Medals in South Sudan



The Sri Lankan peacekeepers serving in the 10th contingent of SRIMED Level 2 Hospital in South Sudan were awarded United Nations Peacekeeping Medals on 17 October 2024 at Bor Camp, South Sudan, in recognition of their dedicated service.

A total of 17 Officers and 48 Other Ranks from the Sri Lankan contingent received medals. Lieutenant General Mohan Subramanian, Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), graced the event as the Chief Guest and praised their professionalism and commitment. The event concluded with a vibrant cultural pageant showcasing Sri Lanka's rich heritage.

GOC of 59 Infantry Division Visits under Command Formations



Major General D R N Hettiarachchi RWP RSP USP, the General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the 59 Infantry Division visited the 593 Infantry Brigade, 6 Gemunu Watch, and 6 Sri Lanka National Guard on 02 October 2024. Colonel U S B Rathnayaka RWP RSP USP, the Commander, 593 Infantry Brigade briefed the battalion's deployment, operational roles, and routine duties in their area of responsibility.



During his visit, GOC interacted with the troops, providing valuable guidance and encouragement. Brigadier K H N P Hannadige RWP RSP psc, Deputy General Officer Commanding, 59 Infantry Division also joined the visit.

One-Day Workshop from FERENTINO Tyre Corporation (Pvt) Ltd



An educational one-day workshop conducted by FERENTINO Tyre Corporation (Pvt) Ltd - one of Sri Lanka's leading tyre manufacturers was held on 25 October 2024 for members of Corps of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. The programme included a factory visit and a technical session designed to enhance the knowledge of EME personnel.



The workshop held at the request of Brigadier P Vithanage, Director of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (EME) provided a detailed briefing on tyre specifications and included demonstrations of the tyre manufacturing process, offering valuable insights essential for EME Officers. 25 Officers from the Corps of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers participated in the event, expressing their gratitude to the FERENTINO officials for the effective learning experience.

Spectacles for Vision-Impaired People in Kakyankulam

The 12 (V) Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment (VIR), organised a Spectacles Donation Programme at the Kakyankulam community hall on 02 October 2024. Accordingly, 102 civilians were benefited from the programme. The programme was held under the guidance of Major General S Kasturimudali RSP ndc psc, the General Officer Commanding of 56 Infantry Division, with the supervision of Commanding Officer, 12 (V) VIR. Dr. V Sarveshwaran, Chairman of the Assist Resettlement & Renaissance organization extended much required financial assistance for programme. Mr. Basir, the President of the Kakyankulam Church, and residents in the area participated in the event.





212 Infantry Brigade Holds Blood Donation Programme



In line with the 75th anniversary of the Sri Lanka Army, a blood donation programme was held on 7 October 2024 at the 212 Infantry Brigade Headquarters under the guidance of Brigadier R M C Rathnayake RWP RSP USP, the Commander of 212 Infantry Brigade. 173 Officers and Other Ranks donated their blood during the programme.

Tree Planting Initiative from 57 Infantry Division



The 57 Infantry Division launched a tree-planting initiative in line with the 75th Anniversary of the Sri Lanka Army, as a step to conserve the green sustainability on 08 October 2024. Troops of 57 Infantry Division deployed at Pangolla and community in the area took part in the initiative and everyone joined the programme received an opportunity to plant a sapling.

The programme launched under Major General W M P M Wijesooriya RWP RSP ndu, the General Officer Commanding, 57 Infantry Division, in collaboration with Rev. Fr. Thusitha Priyanga and his team from the Janasetha Institution. Over 300 saplings were planted during the event.



Unit Visits

Brigadier B D Fernando USP Hdmc psc, the Commander, 561 Infantry Brigade, conducted a formal visit to 10 Sri Lanka Light Infantry and the 16 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment. During the visit, the Commander, 561 Infantry Brigade addressed the administrative issues and welfare requirements and shared his thoughts with the troops.



GOC of 61 Infantry Division Visits Under Command Brigade and Battalions



Brigadier K T P De Silva RSP ndu psc, the newly appointed General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the 61 Infantry Division, paid his maiden visit to the 613 Infantry Brigade on 16 October 2024. Brigadier S N M A B Arambepola RWP, Commander, 613 Infantry Brigade warmly welcomed the GOC. During the visit, the GOC addressed the troops and inspected their administrative functions.

Thereafter the GOC proceeded to visit 9 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment and inspected their sentry points, armoury, medical facilities, office complex, accommodations facilities and welfare facilities.



GOC 22 Infantry Division Makes His Maiden Visit to Under Command Battalions



Major General U K D P Udugama RWP RSP USP ndc psc, the General Officer Commanding (GOC) of 22 Infantry Division made his maiden visits to 221 Infantry Brigade, 222 Infantry Brigade, 223 Infantry Brigade and under command battalions on 18 and 19 September 2024 after assuming duties as the GOC of 22 Infantry Division.

The visits aimed at familiarising with the Area of Responsibility and the deployment of under command Brigades and Battalions, identifying the nature of the duties and their administrative issues.





“Army Seva Vanitha Wetland Café” Inaugurated



Following the conceptual notion of the President, Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU) the “Army Seva Vanitha Wetland Cafe,” in collaboration with Ceylon Cold Stores PLC (CCS) was declared open on 01 October 2024. Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, the President of ASVU, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

Ceylon Cold Stores PLC (CCS) provided the refreshments for over 450 children of Viru Kekulu Preschools and their families who participated in the event. The number of events and competitions were held for the children, and gift packs were awarded to the winners during the programme.

Major General S P A I M B Samarakoon Hdmc Lsc, Deputy Chief of Staff and Colonel Commandant of Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, Mrs. Surangi Amarapala, Assistant Public Relation Officer of Executive Committee ASVU and Senior Officer in Charge of Viru Kekulu- Panagoda and Manning Town, Brigadier (Coordinating) ASVU, Executive Officers of CCS, and members of ASVU participated in the event.



Further, a programme to fulfill the general requirements of women under residential treatments at Ward No.06 of Intermediate House in National Institute of Mental Health, Mulleriyawa was held on 30 October 2024. During the programme lunch treatment was also provided for all women under residential treatments in the ward. Brigadier N Mahavithana KSP, Brigadier (Coordinating) of Sri Lanka Army Seva Vanitha Unit participated in the donation. Further, members of Sri Lanka Army Seva Vanitha Unit also cleaned the premises of the ward complex and repaired the dilapidated areas.





Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU), visited the Senehasa Education Resource Research and Information Centre (SERRIC) to inquire the wellbeing of the children on 25 October 2024. Brigadier G G R Madhugoda USP, Commandnat, SERRIC warmly welcomed the President, ASVU. During her visit, the President, ASVU interacted with children in classrooms, inquired about their wellbeing. Further, the President, ASVU donated essential cleaning items along with two steel cupboards and equipment for the maintenance of the children's swimming pool and presented gift parcels.



Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, the President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU), visited 'Abimansala - III' at Pangolla with the aim to look about the wellbeing of the War Heroes who bravely safeguarded the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity on 22 October 2024. During the visit, the President, ASVU fulfilling a request of three disabled soldiers, donated three electric wheelchairs to support their mobility needs. In addition, 28 dry ration packs were distributed among the assistants working at the centre.

Brigadier G R S Dharmarathne USP, the Commandant of 'Abimansala - III' also joined the occasion. Further, the President, ASVU engaged with the inmates, inquiring about their needs and the wellbeing of their families and acknowledged the creative talents of the War Heroes.



Donation Programme from ASVU for War Heroes and Civil Employees



A distribution programme of dry rations included essential food items was held at Army Seva Vanitha Office at the Army Headquarters on 16 October 2024 under the patronage of Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit. Accordingly, 100 civil employees serving in the Army benefited from the programme.

Further, essential cleaning supplies were also provided to upkeep the swimming pool at Abhimansala II, Kamburupitiya, which benefits resident War Heroes undergoing treatment.

The Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU) conducted a donation programme for the students of Nirangomuwa Primary School, Matale under the gracious participation of Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, the President of the ASVU on 11 October 2024.



Donation Programme From ASVU



ASVU Celebrates International Children's Day



In line with the International Children's Day Celebrations, the Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU) organised a special programme for children at the Children's Development Centre located in Colombo on 01 October 2024. During the event, the President ASVU donated gift packs containing essential items to the children and staff and offered a delicious lunch for children. Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, the President of the ASVU graced the event as the Chief Guest.



Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch

A new house was constructed for Corporal Ranatunga R H M S from 2 (V) Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock (SLACAL), making his dream house a reality on 22 October 2024, in Kuliapitiya as the first house constructed on this nature by Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock.

The new house constructed under the directions of Major General SA Kulatunge RWP RSP VSV USP psc, Commander Security Forces (East) and Colonel Commandant of SLACAL under the supervision of Mrs. Varuni Kulatunge, Chairperson of the Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock Seva Vanitha Branch (SLACAL-SVB), was vested to the beneficiary by Mrs. Janaki Liyanage, President of the Army Seva Vanitha Unit (ASVU). Troops of 2 (V) SLACAL extended much required manpower and technical expertise for the project under the supervision of Lieutenant Colonel S D D Rasika Kumara psc, Commanding Officer, 2 (V) SLACAL.



Sri Lanka Light Infantry Seva Vanitha Branch

A new house was completed and vested for a War Hero under the housing project, which initiated to assist soldiers who are struggling to complete their partly built houses on 04 October 2024. Accordingly, Sergeant Vithanage W S received a completed house during the event. The house was successfully constructed with the manpower and technical assistance of the troops serving at 5 (V) Sri Lanka Light Infantry under the financial generosity of Sri Lanka Light Infantry Seva Vanitha Branch. Another house constructed by the troops serving at 4 Sri Lanka Light Infantry for Sergeant Kumarage K D R with the financial generosity of Sri Lanka Light Infantry Seva Vanitha Branch was also vested for the beneficiary on 05 October 2024 under the patronage of Commanding Officers and members of Sri Lanka Light Infantry Seva Vanitha Branch.



Gemunu Watch Seva Vanitha Branch

Series of welfare programmes initiated for the wellbeing of the members of the Sri Lanka Army was held at 2 (V) Gemunu Watch on 19 October 2024. Under the programme, Rs.155, 000.00 donated for medical aid and 2 scholarships each worth Rs. 50,000.00 were awarded to two students who excelled in the 2023 O/L Exam, achieving 9A's. Two Ranaviru families received two vouchers each worth Rs. 15,000.00 and 15 sets of school accessories each worth Rs. 8, 500.00 were also donated for students. Mrs. Manori Welagedara, the Chairperson of Gemunu Watch Seva Vanitha Branch graced the occasion with its members.

Gajaba Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch



Mrs. Priyanga Wickramasinghe officially took over duties as the Chairperson of the Gajaba Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch (GR-SVB) during a simple ceremony held at the Gajaba Regimental Centre on 04 October 2024.

Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps Seva Vanitha Branch



Mrs. Chathuri Sumedha officially assumed duties as the new Chairperson of the Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps Seva Vanitha Branch (SLAWC-SVB), on 23 October 2024 at the SLAWC Regimental Headquarters.



Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch



Coinciding with the International Children's Day, Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment Seva Vanitha Branch (VIR-SVB), organised a special excursion for 23 boys from the Maliyadewa Orphanage to Colombo Metropolitan on 05 October 2024. Accordingly, the children visited the Dehiwala Zoo and Lotus Tower, and enjoyed playtime at Galle Face. Major General K A W N H Bandaranayake USP, the General Officer Commanding, 14 Infantry Division and Colonel of the Regiment Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment together with Chairperson Mrs. Damayanti Bandaranayake, participated in the programme. During the programme three children were gifted with shoes and Mrs. Maduwanthi Gallage extended the much-required financial generosity.



Mechanized Infantry Seva Vanitha Branch



The Mechanized Infantry Seva Vanitha Branch (MIR-SVB), launched a community service project at the Sri Jinathana Child Care Centre, Dambulla on 12 October 2024. Number of members from MIR-SVB joined the event under the guidance of Mrs. Nilanthi Wanasinghe, Chairperson of MIR-SVB. During the programme, the premises was well cleaned. An entertaining programme was also organised for 30 children along with the delicious lunch treat. The initiative was carried out with the guidance of Major General W M S C K Wanasinghe RSP USP, the General Officer Commanding, 21 Infantry Division and Colonel of the Regiment MIR.

Special Forces Seva Vanitha Branch



A donation programme was conducted under the guidance of Mrs. Anoja Peiris, Chairperson of the Special Forces Seva Vanitha Branch (SF-SVB), at the Headquarters Battalion of the Special Forces on 06 October 2024. During the event, 20 civilian employees at the Headquarters Battalion received dry ration packs, essential items, and stationery.

Engineer Services Seva Vanitha Branch



A dry ration pack donation programme for the Ranaviru families with newly born babies was held on 16 October 2024 at the Engineer Services Central Workshop premises in Habarakada, Homagama. The event was held under the direction of Mrs. Anupama Rathnayake, the Chairperson of the Corps of Engineer Services Seva Vanitha Branch (CES-SVB). Members of CES-SVB participated in the donation programme.



Sri Lanka Army Service Corps Seva Vanitha Branch

The annual Seva Vanitha programme of the 2(V) Sri Lanka Army Service Corps (SLASC) Regiment was held at 2 (V) SLASC, Katunayake on 06 October 2024 under the guidance of Mrs. Chandi Rajapakse, the President of the Seva Vanitha Branch (SVB) of SLASC. Mr. Saman Gunawardana, the renowned artist and Aesthetic Director, North Western Province, Provincial Education Department, Kurunegala delivered a insightful speech during the programme. The programme was held under patronage of Lieutenant Colonel Rohana Udaratage, Commanding Officer, 2 (V) SLASC and Mrs. Chandima Udaratage, gift packs were distributed to the children, elders of working staff of 2(V) SLASC and the civil staff.



Sri Lanka Army Pioneer Corps Seva Vanitha Branch

A delicious lunch treat provided for the elders at Jawaththa Elders Home, Kaluthara under the guidance of Mrs. H G Swarnalatha, the Chairperson of Sri Lanka Army Pioneer Corps Seva Vanitha Branch (SLAPC-SVB), along with all members on 21 October 2024. In addition, cash incentives to purchase the essential items for the use of elders were also donated. Colonel A R D De Silva (Coordinating Officer - SLRC/ SLAPC), Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks along with members of Seva Vanitha Branch participated in the programme.



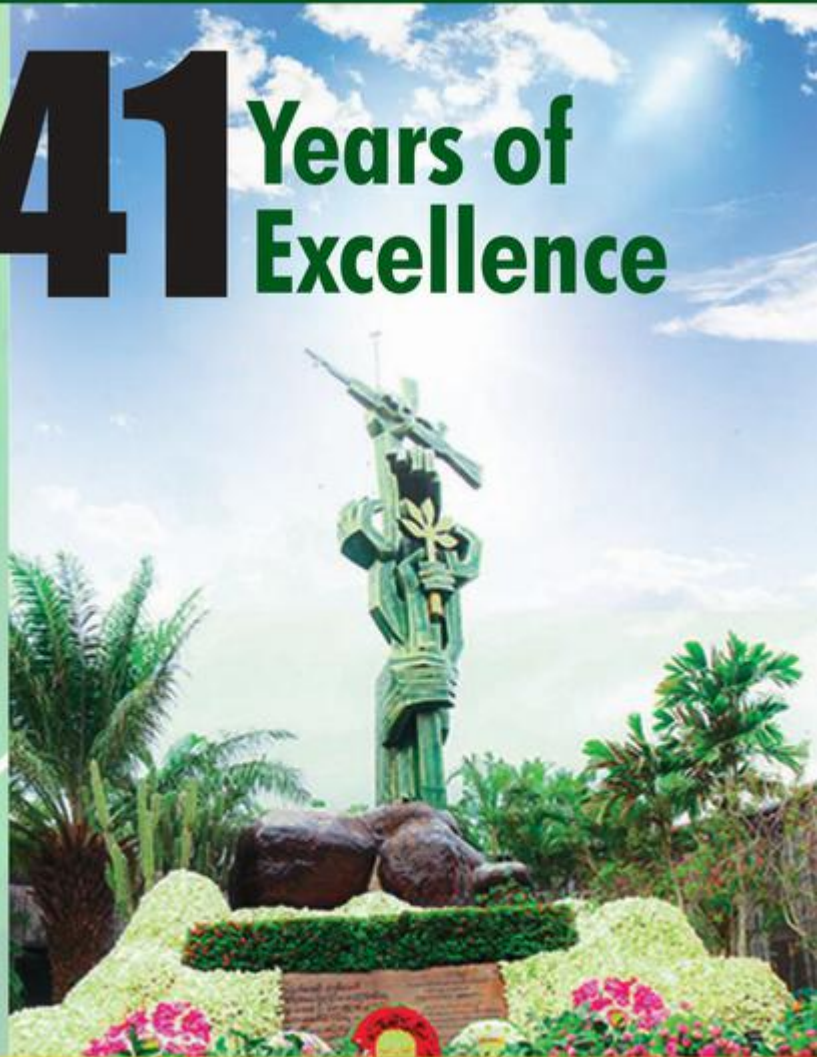
Gajaba Regiment Celebrates

41 Years of Excellence

Among the various illustrious regiments, the Gajaba Regiment raise prominently, epitomising the legacy of the ancient valiant King Gajaba. Over its distinguished history, the Regiment has made significant contributions in various perspectives, including defence and sports. The Regimental Day of the Gajaba Regiment falls on 14 October 2024, marking a remarkable milestone of 41 years of excellence.

The Gajaba Regiment was established on 14 October 1983 under the visionary leadership of Major General W I V K M Wimalaratne PWV RWP RSP VSV USP psc. This regiment was formed as a result of the amalgamation of the 1st Battalion of the Rajarata Rifles and the 1st Battalion of the Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment, as per the directive from Army Headquarters to form a new infantry unit known as "Nawa Pabala Ekakaya". This newly formed regiment was designed to guard the country's law and order.

The designation "Gajaba Regiment" was ultimately adopted, as a homage to the heroic King Gajabahu. In Sinhala literature texts, "Gajaba" refers to "strong arms of elephants," symbolising power and strength. Following the deep rooted tradition to locate in the Grate City Anuradhapura by the Grate Kings of all times, the Regimental Centre of the Gajaba Regiment was also established in Anuradhapura recognising the historic significance while representing heroism, valour, and courage.



The 1st Battalion of the Gajaba Regiment was officially commissioned on 14 October 1983, marking a significant chapter in the history of the Sri Lanka Army at the time where Major General W I V K M Wimalaratne PWV RWP RSP VSV USP psc at the time when he served as the first Commanding Officer of this infantry battalion as a Lieutenant Colonel earning the due title of founding father of the Gajaba Regiment.

Since its inception, the valiant Gajaba Regiment has imprinted its name into history as one of the strongest infantry regiments, participating in number of military operations such as the Vadamarachchi Operation which aimed at eradicating terrorism from the motherland as a part of the Vanni Humanitarian Operation. Notably, the 53rd, 55th, 57th, 58th, and 59th Divisions, which played pivotal roles on the battlefield during the Northern Humanitarian Operation, were led by Commanders nurtured by the Gajaba Regiment. These War Heroes had solemnly dedicated to extinguish the curse of terrorism from the nation.

The success achieved during the Vanni Humanitarian Operation marked a historic turning point for the Gajaba Regiment, exhibiting valour of its War Heroes who revived the spirit of ancient kings by bringing the scattered pieces of the nation together with their grate efforts.

In recognition of the gallantry demonstrated on numerous occasions, the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka conferred the President's Colours and Regimental Colours upon the Gajaba Regiment on 16 January 2017. This remarkable honour entered the Gajaba Regiment as the first infantry regiment in the history of the Sri Lanka Army awarded both colours simultaneously, well establishing its place in military history.

The Gajaba Regiment, having successfully completed forty years of excellence has emerged as a well-established defender of all ethnicities in Sri Lanka. Throughout its proud history, the regiment has produced remarkable leaders who have held prestigious

positions, including His Excellency the President of the Democratic Socialist People's Government of Sri Lanka, the Secretary of Defense, the Chief of Defense Staff, and the Commander of the Army, leaving an impressive mark on the 75-year history of the nation.

In its 41-year journey, the Gajaba Regiment has produced General Shavendra Silva WWV RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil, who became the first Chief of Defense Staff and the first Commander of the Army to rise to the rank of General under the flag of Gajaba Regiment. Continuing this legacy, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu presently serves as the Commander of the Army.

The Gajaba Regiment's contributions extend beyond defense. It has also made significant victories in various fields, including sports. Notably, Warrant Officer 1 Dinesh Priyantha achieved a historic milestone by winning a gold medal in javelin throw at the 2020 Paralympic Games held in Tokyo, Japan. His remarkable performance entered into records as the highest achievement by a Sri Lankan in the history of the Paralympic Games. He won two Olympic medals while becoming the first and only Sri Lankan to reach such heights in the field of world sports, adding immense pride to the Gajaba Regiment's legacy.

Over the past forty years, 171 Officers and 4,068 Other Ranks of the Gajaba Regiment have made the supreme sacrifice as patriots in defense of the nation. Additionally, 307 Officers and 5,646 Other Ranks have undergone rehabilitation and recuperation during the regiment's 39-year history, underscoring the commitment and resilience of its members.

In recognition of the valiant service rendered by the gallant Keterians of the Gajaba Regiment throughout various periods, the regiment has been honoured with numerous accolades, including 4 Parama Weera Vibhushanaya (Supreme Heroism Decorations), 65 Weera Wickrama Vibhushanaya (WV), 3 Weerodara Vibhushanaya (WV), 774 Rana Wickrama Padakkama (RWP), and 3,919 Rana Sura Padakkama (RSP).

Today, this proud regiment comprises 12 Regular Battalions, 4 Volunteer Battalions, and one Regimental Headquarters Battalion, confirming its status as the strongest infantry regiment in the Sri Lankan Army.

Commemorating its 41 years of distinguished service, a simple yet dignified event took place at the Regimental Center on 13 and 14 October 2024, under the patronage of Major General M G W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc, Colonel of the Regiment, with the Officers and Other Ranks. The commemoration commenced on 13 October 2024 with a Dhamma Sermon led by the Venerable Maha Sangha held at the beautifully constructed Pirith Mandapa within the Regimental Center premises. This event invoked blessings for the fallen Keterians while wishing for the speedy recovery of rehabilitating Keterians, civil servants, and their families.

On the same day, a memorial ceremony was conducted to honour the brave Keterians who sacrificed their lives to preserve the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the nation under the graceful participation of Colonel of the Regiment, Gajaba Regiment.

The official anniversary ceremony commenced on 14 October 2024 according a Guard Turnout and a Guard of Honour for the Colonel of the Regiment. Brigadier G A T Godewatta RWP RSP, Centre Commandant of the Gajaba Regiment, warmly welcomed the Colonel of the Regiment, Gajaba Regiment to the anniversary events. Following a floral tribute to the monument of the founding father, the Colonel of the Regiment addressed the Keterians. Many Keterians participated in the event highlighting the unity and pride of the regiment.

*Capt KVN Lakmali SLAGSC
Directorate of Media and
Psychological Operations
Army Headquarters*



Nation's Defender Celebrates

Diamond Jubilee

This year marks a historic milestone for the Sri Lanka Army as it celebrates its diamond anniversary—75 years of unwavering dedication to safeguard the nation's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence. Since its inception on 10 October 1949, Sri Lanka Army stood at the forefront of national security, defending the motherland and its people against visible or invisible challenges. At the moment where the establishment celebrates its diamond jubilee on 10 October 2024, it is the prime time to honour the sacrifices of all who contributed to shape this illustrious journey from then to the present leadership.

Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, who played a pivotal role in humanitarian operations to end a 30-year prolonged war, currently, serves as the 24th Commander of the Army. Under his leadership, Sri Lanka Army continues to uphold its dedicative mission in defending the nation progressively. His leadership, shaped by years of experience and valour, reflects the unyielding commitment of the institution towards its duties and responsibilities. The current Commander-in-Chief, His Excellency the President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, also plays a vital role in guiding the Army's vision and progress, alongside Honourable Prime Minister Dr. Harini Amarasuriya and Secretary of Defense Air Vice Marshal Sampath Thuyacontha (Retd) to fulfill the aspirations of the Nation in



the coming years.

A Legacy of Sacrifice and Valour

The Sri Lanka Army's history deeply connected with the nation's struggle to maintain sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country. Its role in the elimination of 30 years prolonged terrorism is one of the most defining chapters in its legacy. Valourous and dedicated troops of the Sri Lanka Army successfully terminated the bitter, decades-long menace of terrorism, which tore apart families and communities on 18 May 2009, bringing hope for a new beginning. The war, initiated with the assassination of Jaffna Mayor Alfred Duraipah in 1975 by Velupillai Prabhakaran, culminated in a hard-earned victory, paying with blood and tears of thousands of soldiers and civilians.

The Humanitarian Operations against Fourth Eelam War launched on 26 July 2006, under the command of Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka under the leadership of His Excellency President Mahinda Rajapaksa marking a decisive turning point in the nation's history. The operation named "Eastern Humanitarian Operation," aimed to restore basic needs and protect civilians from the atrocities committed by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). The war reached a critical point when the LTTE blocked the Mavil Aru sluice gate, depriving 30,000 civilians' access to the water. This marked the beginning of a humanitarian effort to liberate the area to secure the region bringing the peace.

Following the Eastern Humanitarian Operation, the focus shifted to the North, where the LTTE had consolidated its power. The Northern Humanitarian Operation, initiated with the goal of liberating the Northern Province, was an arduous and strategically complex. A key moment in this operation was capturing the Silavathura Sea Tiger base in 2007 - a crucial supply hub for the LTTE. The combined Armed forces of the Army and Navy decisively captured the north - west supply hub of the foe.

The ultimate victory in May 2009 not only signified the end of terrorism in Sri Lanka but also opened a new chapter for the country. Yet, it

came at a great cost. Over 23,562 Army personnel were either killed or reported missing in action, and more than 23,200 were injured. However, Sri Lanka Army's immense sacrifice was recognised through numerous gallantry awards and accolades of total 33131, including 29 Parama Weera Vibhushanaya (PWV), the nation's highest military honour awarded for supreme heroism, along with 18 Weerodara Vibhushanaya (WV), 312 Weera Wickrama Vibhushanaya (WWV), 5,101 Rana Wickrama Padakkama (RWP), and 27,671 Rana Sura Padakkama (RSP) medals.

Nation Building and Rehabilitation

While the Army's primary mission is to safeguard national security, its contributions to post-war rehabilitation, reconciliation and nation-building have been equally commendable. After the end of the war, the Army took a leading role in rehabilitating and resettling displaced civilians and ex combatants in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, working tirelessly to restore normalcy in war-torn areas. These efforts helped to mend the fabric of society, enabling communities to heal and rebuild their lives.

The Army's involvement in national development has extended far beyond its main responsibility. It has played a significant role in assuring best healthcare service, infrastructure development, education, agriculture, and cultural reconciliation initiatives. The projects such as the "East Navodaya" number of infrastructure initiative and a range of agricultural ventures initiated, contributing the country's economic progress. Successful agricultural projects have launched at Vellankum, Menikfarm, Adiapulianthulam, Neeraviya, Kandakadu, Galkanda, Balella, Yala Palatupana Farm and Aralaganwila Agricultural Training School, Army Headquarters Agricultural Project, Kohilawagurawatta Regimental Farm helping to boost food security and contribute to the development of nation's agricultural production. In addition, the agri projects initiated by the Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock at every Army Camps have successfully progressed achieving its desired

objectives.

In line with former President's vision for a self-sustaining Army, the Commander of the Army, Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu took actions to expand the agricultural initiatives across the country. Notably, the Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock has implemented projects to produce food for the consumption of the Army. The surplus harvests distributed among the public through government programmes. In 2024, the Army has successfully handed over 10 metric tons of rice to the government's rice subsidy programme, marking a significant step toward reducing the Army's dependence on government funds for rations.

The modernisation of the Weyangoda Machinery Complex as Army Ordnance Industries, is another major achievement. The facility, once abandoned, has been revitalised to manufacture essential goods such as iron beds, hardware, garment products, tyre re-stitching, bed sheets and pillows etc, uniforms required for training recruits, shorts, helmets, work clothes, t-shirts, all types of packs, raincoats, ponchos capes, vehicle canopies. All types of camping tents, all types of belts, assault jackets, flak jackets and other special equipment worn by Officers and Other Ranks are also produced.

In the factory saving millions in foreign exchange and reducing procurement costs up to 40%. This self-sufficiency highlights the Sri Lanka Army's broader economic contribution, which extends beyond the battlefield.

Responding to National Emergencies and Disasters

The Sri Lanka Army has also consistently demonstrated its readiness to assist nation during natural disasters and national emergencies. From 2004 Tsunami to the Meethotamulla landslide and the COVID-19 pandemic, the Sri Lanka Army has been at the forefront of rescue and relief operations. In particular, the establishment of the Sri Lanka Army Center for Disaster Response Training in Gampola is a significant milestone that marks the Army's proactive approach



in preparing for future disasters. This center offers research and training in civil-military operations, ensuring the ability of Sri Lanka Army to handle both domestic and international crises.

Moreover, the Army's commitment to restraining illegal activities, such as drug trafficking, further underscores its role as a guardian of the nation's future in the perspectives of its social fabric. Under the direction of the Commander of the Army Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, the troops have ramped up intelligence and operational efforts to control the menace of narcotic drugs, seising quantities of hashish, kush, and other illicit substances to safeguard future generations from the perils of addiction.

International Recognition in Peacekeeping

The Sri Lanka Army has also earned international acclaim for its contributions to United Nations peacekeeping missions. Since its first deployment, Sri Lanka troops have been deployed in conflict zones worldwide such as Haiti, Lebanon, South Sudan, the Republic of Chad, and Mali. To date, more than 20,775 soldiers have served under the UN flag, earning Sri Lanka close to \$300 million in foreign exchange.

Adding to its list of achievements, the Sri Lanka Army has developed the Unicorn/Unibaffle vehicles, which used in UN peacekeeping missions. Manufactured by the Sri

Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Corps (SLEME), these vehicles used at Sri Lankan Combat Convoy Company comply with international standards, saving significant foreign exchange while enhancing the Army's technical capabilities.

Excellence in Sports

Sri Lanka Army has long demonstrated a strong commitment to the field of sports, both national and international stage. Apart from the main role as the defender of the nation, Sri Lanka Army also contributed to the nation's sporting achievements across various disciplines fostering unity and harmony. From cricket to boxing and rugby, archery, sepaktakraw, javelin throw, kayaking, the Sri Lanka Army has consistently excelled producing talented athletes who have achieved the national and international levels.

Warrant Officer II Samitha Dulan earned the silver medal in the Paralympics F-44 Javelin throw, marking a significant global accomplishment. Corporal Aruna Dharshana and Staff Sergeant Nadeesha Lekamge earned the prestigious honor of representing Sri Lanka at the Paris Olympics while Staff Sergeant Nadeesha Ramanayake won the gold medal in the 400 meters at the Asian Athletics Championship..

Ajantha Mendis, and Seekuge Prasanna, Dinesh Chandimal, Thisara Perera and Mahesh Theekshana are the proud products of the Sri Lanka Army for field of

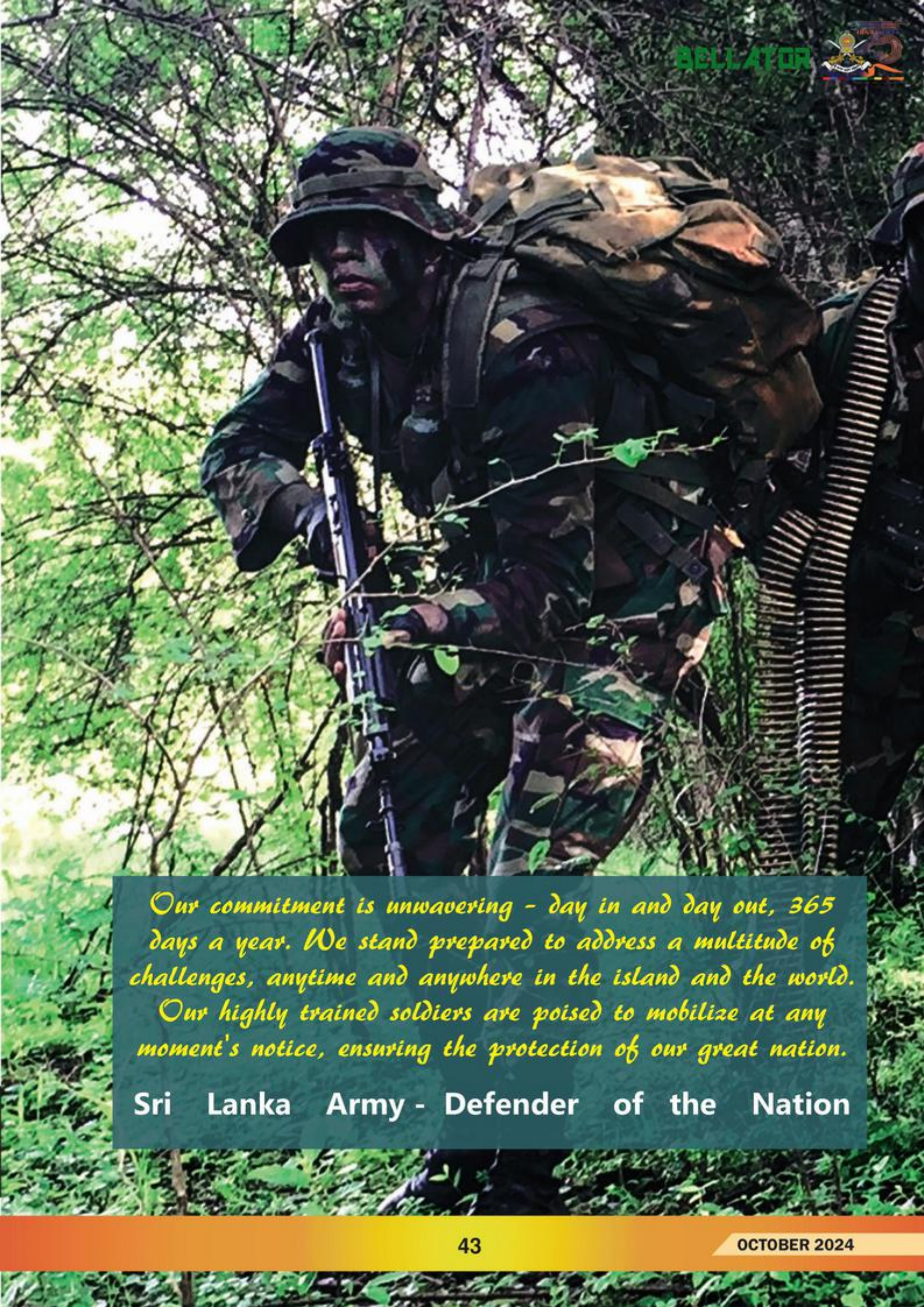
Sports. The Army's rugby and volleyball teams have consistently demonstrated excellence in both local and international arenas, reflecting the Army's commitment to nurturing athletic talent.

Looking to the Future

As the Sri Lanka Army celebrates its 75th anniversary, it continues to honour its legacy of valour and service further for the wellbeing of the nation. The unwavering dedication of Army towards the nation—whether in times of war or peace—remains at the core of its identity. From protecting the country's borders to rebuilding communities and contributing to national development, the Sri Lanka Army's role has evolved significantly over the years, reflecting both the challenges and opportunities ahead.

The Army's vision for the future includes self-reliance in food production by 2030, further modernisation of its industrial capabilities, and continued leadership in disaster management and national security. As the nation moves forward, the Sri Lanka Army will undoubtedly continue to be the proud defender of the motherland, embodying the spirit of sacrifice, resilience, and unity that has defined for 75 years.

*Capt KVN Lakmali SLAGSC
Directorate of Media and
Psychological Operations
Army Headquarters*



Our commitment is unwavering - day in and day out, 365 days a year. We stand prepared to address a multitude of challenges, anytime and anywhere in the island and the world. Our highly trained soldiers are poised to mobilize at any moment's notice, ensuring the protection of our great nation.

Sri Lanka Army - Defender of the Nation



History

of Nuclear Weapons (part 3)

The political landscape in South Africa began to change in the late 1980s. Under President F.W. de Klerk, the apartheid regime started negotiating with the African National Congress (ANC) and began steps toward dismantling apartheid. As part of this process, and due to a decreasing threat perception with the end of the Cold War, South Africa decided to dismantle its nuclear arsenal. In 1989, South Africa dismantled its nuclear weapons programme in secret. The

uranium cores were extracted, and the weapons were disassembled. By 1991, South Africa had fully dismantled its nuclear devices and had adhered to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) as a non-nuclear weapon state. In 1993, South Africa publicly disclosed the existence and dismantling of its nuclear programme. After dismantling its nuclear arsenal, South Africa allowed the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to verify the complete dismantling of its

nuclear weapons programme. This transparency helped to improve South Africa's international standing and opened the door for its reintegration into the global community. South Africa remains the only country to have developed nuclear weapons and then voluntarily dismantled its entire arsenal. This act set a precedent in non-proliferation history, showing that disarmament is possible even after a country has crossed the nuclear threshold. South Africa's decision to dismantle its nuclear

weapons program and join the NPT has had a positive influence on non-proliferation efforts. It has been cited as an example for other countries, demonstrating that international isolation due to nuclear weapons can be overcome by adhering to non-proliferation norms.

India's nuclear journey began with the establishment of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) in 1948, under the leadership of Dr. Homi J. Bhabha. The focus initially was on peaceful uses of nuclear energy, aligning with Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's vision. The commissioning of the Apsara Research Reactor in 1956 at Trombay marked India's first major nuclear milestone. Apsara was Asia's first research reactor. China's successful nuclear test in 1964 significantly influenced India's strategic calculations, leading to increased emphasis on developing indigenous nuclear capabilities. India conducted its first nuclear test on 18 May 1974, under the codename "Smiling Buddha" at Pokhran. The device was an implosion-type bomb using plutonium-239, with a yield of approximately 12 kilotons of TNT. This test was a milestone in India's nuclear program and marked its entry into the nuclear weapons club, making India the sixth nation to possess nuclear weapons. This was a "peaceful nuclear explosion" (PNE), indicating India's technological capability without explicitly pursuing weaponisation. After 1974, India maintained a policy of nuclear ambiguity, refraining from further tests but continuing to develop its nuclear infrastructure and capabilities. On 11 and 13 May 1998, India conducted a series of five nuclear tests at Pokhran, termed "Operation Shakti." These tests included both fission and thermonuclear devices. Following these tests, India declared itself a nuclear weapon state and adopted a "No First Use" (NFU) policy. In 1999, India released its nuclear doctrine, which was later formalised. It emphasised a credible minimum deterrent, NFU policy, and massive retaliation in the event of a nuclear attack. India has continued to develop and enhance its nuclear arsenal, focusing on a triad of delivery systems: land-based ballistic missiles, air-launched

weapons, and submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs). Key developments include the Agni series of ballistic missiles and the INS Arihant-class nuclear-powered submarines.

Pakistan's nuclear ambitions began in the 1950s, soon after its independence in 1947. The focus initially was on peaceful nuclear energy. The Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) was established in 1956 to oversee nuclear research and development. The 1971 Indo-Pakistani War, which resulted in the creation of Bangladesh, was a pivotal moment. Following this defeat, Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto declared that Pakistan would develop a nuclear bomb, stating famously, "We will eat grass, even go hungry, but we will get one of our own [atomic bomb]." Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan, a metallurgist, played a crucial role in the development of Pakistan's nuclear capabilities. He brought in knowledge from Europe, particularly about uranium enrichment. India's first nuclear test in 1974 (Smiling Buddha) further motivated Pakistan to expedite its nuclear weapons programme. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, Pakistan focused on acquiring technology and materials necessary for building a nuclear weapon, including centrifuge technology for uranium enrichment. On 28 May 1998, following a series of nuclear tests by India, Pakistan conducted its own nuclear tests (Chagai-I and Chagai-II) in Balochistan in the Chagai Hills. These were plutonium-239 implosion-type devices with an estimated yield of 6–12 kilotons of TNT per

device. These tests demonstrated Pakistan's nuclear capability to the world. The international community, particularly the United States, imposed sanctions on Pakistan (and India) following the tests. However, these sanctions were later lifted in the context of broader geopolitical considerations, especially after 9/11. Pakistan maintains a policy of minimum credible deterrence and has developed a nuclear triad, including land-based missiles, aircraft-delivered bombs, and submarine-launched missiles.

Iran's nuclear programme began in the 1950s under Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, supported by the United States through the "Atoms for Peace" programme. This initiative aimed to promote peaceful nuclear energy use, but the Shah's regime also had ambitions for nuclear weapons, given regional threats and aspirations for regional dominance. In the 1970s, Iran established the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) and signed a deal with West Germany to construct the Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant. France also agreed to supply a uranium enrichment facility and reactors. Iran signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) in 1968, committing to non-military use of nuclear technology, which was ratified in 1970. Following the 1979 Islamic Revolution, the new Iranian government, led by Ayatollah Khomeini, initially opposed nuclear weapons on religious grounds. The revolution caused Western nations to halt cooperation and assistance with Iran's nuclear programme, leading to a temporary stagnation. During the Iran-Iraq War (1980-1988), Iran faced significant



military and economic challenges. The devastating conflict, during which Iraq used chemical weapons, highlighted Iran's vulnerability and led to renew interest in enhancing defense capabilities, including potential development of nuclear technology. In the 1990s, Iran resumed its nuclear activities more earnestly. The country signed agreements with Russia to complete the Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant and initiated secretive programs to develop uranium enrichment and heavy water capabilities. By the mid-1990s, reports began to surface about undeclared nuclear sites and potential enrichment activities. In 2002, Iranian dissidents revealed the existence of the Natanz uranium enrichment plant and the Arak heavy water facility, escalating international fears of a clandestine weapons programme. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) launched investigations into Iran's nuclear activities, which culminated in a series of United Nations Security Council resolutions from 2006 onwards, demanding Iran suspend all enrichment-related activities and imposing economic sanctions. Between 2003 and 2015, Iran was engaged in intermittent negotiations with the P5+1 group (the five permanent UN Security Council members and Germany) aimed at limiting its nuclear program. Despite temporary agreements like the 2003 Tehran Declaration, the international community remained skeptical of Iran's intentions. In 2015, Iran and the P5+1 reached the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), commonly known as the Iran Nuclear Deal. Under the agreement, Iran agreed to limit its uranium enrichment activities, reduce its stockpile of enriched uranium, and allow comprehensive IAEA inspections in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions. In 2018, the United States, under President Donald Trump, unilaterally withdrew from the JCPOA and reimposed severe sanctions on Iran, leading to Iran gradually reducing its commitments under the deal. As of recent years, diplomatic efforts have continued to revive the JCPOA or reach a new agreement, but tensions remain high due to ongoing uranium enrichment activities and regional geopolitical conflicts.

North Korea's nuclear weapons programme has been one of the most significant and controversial developments in international security over the past several decades. North Korea's nuclear ambitions date back to the 1950s, with the establishment of the Atomic Energy Research Institute and the Yongbyon Nuclear Scientific Research Center in 1962. North Korea received significant technical assistance from the Soviet Union, to build the first research reactor in Yongbyon in the 1960s. In the 1980s, North Korea expanded its nuclear research facilities at Yongbyon, including a 5 MWe graphite-moderated reactor and a reprocessing facility capable of extracting plutonium from spent nuclear fuel. In the early 1990s, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) detected inconsistencies in North Korea's nuclear declarations and requested special inspections, which North Korea refused. This led to the first nuclear crisis, with North Korea announcing its intention to withdraw from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) in 1993. The crisis was defused in 1994 with the Agreed Framework between the United States and North Korea, in which North Korea agreed to freeze its illicit plutonium weapons program in exchange for aid in building two light-water reactors and the provision of heavy fuel oil. The Agreed Framework began

to collapse in the early 2000s, particularly after the United States accused North Korea of pursuing a secret uranium enrichment programme in 2002. On 9 October 2006, North Korea conducted its first nuclear test, claiming to have detonated a nuclear device underground. The device was an implosion-type bomb using plutonium-239, with an estimated yield less than 1 kiloton of TNT, being significantly lower than other nations' first tests. North Korea conducted additional nuclear tests in 2009, 2013, 2016 (twice), and 2017. These tests demonstrated advancements in North Korea's nuclear capabilities, including miniaturisation of nuclear warheads and development of thermonuclear weapons. Alongside its nuclear tests, North Korea made significant progress in developing ballistic missiles, capable of reaching long-range targets including the United States mainland. High-profile diplomatic efforts took place but these talks did not result in a concrete agreement to denuclearise. North Korea continues to develop its nuclear and missile programmes despite international sanctions and diplomatic efforts. The exact status and capabilities of its arsenal remain uncertain, but it is clear that North Korea maintains a significant nuclear capability.

Throughout the Cold War and



beyond various arms control treaties aimed at limiting the proliferation and testing of nuclear weapons have been signed. These included the Partial Test Ban Treaty (1963), the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT I and II), Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF), and others. The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), signed in 1968, aimed to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons, promote peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and further the goal of disarmament. The deployment of intermediate-range SS-20 missiles in Europe heightened tensions and led to the NATO deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles. The Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT I and SALT II in 1972 and 1979) agreements were reached between the United States and the Soviet Union to limit the number of strategic ballistic missile launchers and other nuclear weapons. The 1980s saw renewed tensions but also significant arms control agreements, such as the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty signed in 1987 by Reagan and Gorbachev, which eliminated all intermediate-range and shorter-range nuclear and conventional missiles. The collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 led to

the division of its nuclear arsenal among successor states, notably Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Belarus. Efforts such as the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program helped secure and dismantle nuclear weapons in these new states. The Strategic Arms Reduction Treaties (START I (1991) and START II (1993)) treaties between the United States and Russia aimed to further reduce and limit the number of deployed strategic nuclear weapons. The New START Treaty, signed in 2010, aims to further reduce deployed strategic nuclear weapons. But the spread of nuclear technology and ambitions of countries like North Korea and Iran pose ongoing challenges. Understanding the destructive power of nuclear weapons highlights the importance of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation efforts to prevent the catastrophic consequences of their use.

Reference

- Albright, D. "South Africa and the Affordable Bomb" *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, July/August 1994.
- Liberman, P. "The Rise and Fall of the South African Bomb" *International Security*, Vol. 26, No. 2, Fall 2001.

Perkovich, G., "India's Nuclear Bomb: The Impact on Global Proliferation" University of California Press, 2001

Tellis, A.J., "India's Emerging Nuclear Posture: Between Recessed Deterrent and Ready Arsenal" RAND Corporation, 2001

Khan, F.H., "Eating Grass: The Making of the Pakistani Bomb" Stanford University Press, 2012

Patrikarakos, D., "Nuclear Iran: The Birth of an Atomic State" I.B.Tauris, 2012

Rezaei, F., "Iran's Nuclear Program: A Study in Nuclear Proliferation and Rollback" Palgrave Macmillan, 2017

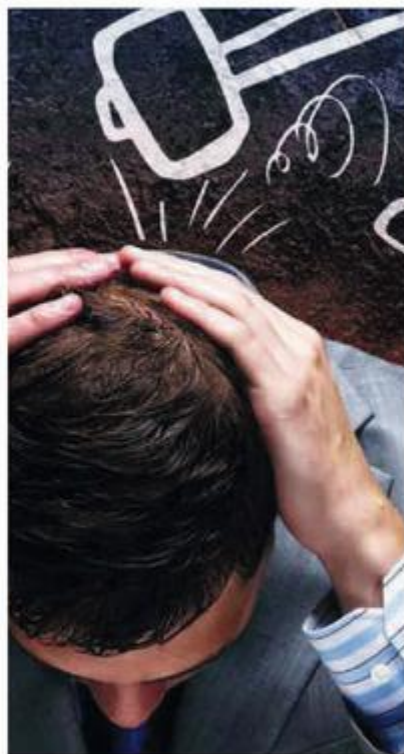
Wit, J.S., Poneman, D.B., Gallucci R.L., "Going Critical: The First North Korean Nuclear Crisis" Brookings Institution Press, 2004

Joyner, D.H., "Interpreting the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty" Oxford University Press, 2013

Futter, A., "The Politics of Nuclear Weapons" Palgrave Macmillan, 2020

Cimbala, S.J., Scouras, J., "A New Nuclear Century: Strategic Stability and Arms Control" Praeger, 2002





Don't Hack Your life with Emotional Dependency

Life encompasses multifaceted definitions depending on the circumstances. In each situation, thoughts, emotions, and behaviours vary, with emotions playing a crucial role in expressing feelings to others and giving shape to those feelings.

To elucidate emotions more clearly, the American Psychological Association (APA) defines them as "conscious mental reactions (such as anger or fear) subjectively experienced as intense feelings, usually directed toward a specific object, and typically accompanied by physiological and behavioral changes in the body."

Emotions are intimately connected to individuals within relationships and the state of each relational bond can be derived from emotional interactions. However, psychology also identifies dependency behaviours that are observed in social and daily interactions. "In

psychology, dependency typically refers to a relationship characterised by an excessive reliance on other people (or substances) to satisfy emotional, physical, or psychological needs. It is often examined in the context of maladaptive behavior patterns such as pathological gambling or substance addiction."

In today's context, observing relationship dynamics that encompass both emotions and dependency—known as emotional dependency—has become more complex. Emotional dependency is a critical aspect that we must recognise in ourselves and others during interactions. This condition often leads to heightened stress and pressure within a relationship.

Emotional dependency is further defined by its impacts on an individual. It arises when a person develops a belief that he needs a partner for survival, to feel fulfilled, or to feel complete. It is easy to mistake love for emotional dependency, as both

are characterised by intense feelings toward another person. In relationships, emotionally dependent individuals may believe they are "in love" when, in reality, they are "in need." Such individuals often seek constant attention, approval, and support from their partner.

Similarly, when discussing love, it is important to acknowledge its various meanings. In psychology, particularly in the modern context, love is described as "an emotion characterised by strong feelings of affection for another, arising from kinship, companionship, admiration, or benevolence. It may also denote a benevolent concern for the well-being of others. The term is further used to refer to sexual attraction or erotic desire toward another." Love, as a distinct emotion, has been studied across several scientific fields, including psychology, biology, neuroscience, anthropology, and sociology.

Being human today involves experiencing a wide range of

emotions and behaviors. However, the thoughts, feelings, and behaviours of some individuals may appear problematic, especially in the context of relationships. Therefore, understanding emotional dependency is crucial for all of us.

How we can understand Emotional Dependency:

To recognise this, some of the following characteristics will help,

- Feels: People you have dated in the past tend to seem ideal to you.
- Instead of focusing on your partner's appearance, project the person you want them to be.
- Creating the person you believe you love
- How this person could make me feel like a celebrity astounded me.
- Pay more attention to how the person you love treats you than to who they are.
- The feeling of your partner is accountable for your happiness, your worth, and your security
- Feels stressed and sometimes anxious during communications like no text messages. (not happening as per your expectations)
- Make a list of what your partner must do for you to feel safe and at ease.
- Feels or thinks incomplete or unable to do something without this person
- Afraid of missing your loved one
- Feel alone or abandoned during your partner, not with attention or praise.

Those are signs of emotional Dependency that we can recognise in our lives. The crucial of this is that people automatically step into the mental disorders if doesn't recognise or get treatments.

Most of the time, it can be the reason behind someone's

suicide. Therefore, it needs to be addressed. Here are some simple tips to help someone in need.

Identification of your triggers

This will help you to understand what's happening in some scenarios. Then, you can avoid or prepare for them.

Accept all your emotions

Understanding the reality of your emotions is essential. Then only we can go for a better solution to cure

Understand the reality of the world.

You came to this world alone. On most occasions, you are the person who chooses things in life for your betterment, not others'. That is the key to holding things strong for your happiness. Even if we say, "I love you" really, it's "I love me". Hence, others are also the same. The principle of the world is that everything in this world is subject to change.

Need to have limitations for healthier relationships

Although we have relationships, it is important to respect each other's privacy and individuality. There will be moments when compromise and change are possible, but there are also times when no negotiation can be reached. In such cases, it may be necessary for each person to pursue their own path, carrying the lessons of both positive and negative experiences. Remember, we do not rush into relationships forcefully, and thus, we should approach departures with the same level of care and consideration.

Be mindful and understand your values.

Biologically, we are all born equal, and no one needs to depend on others, as each person is unique. It's important to understand your strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats clearly. Focus on having control over yourself, not others. Begin with simple steps, such as prioritising your own needs first.

Finally, if you need more assistance and guidance, please immediately meet your nearest qualified mental health care partner, such as a psychiatrist, relationship counselor, or counselor etc.

References:

<https://www.apa.org/>

<https://www.talktoangel.com/>



By Nisal Rukshan
MHRM, B.A. (Defence), BSc
(Hons.) Counselling Psychology,
DCPsy
Email: rukshan.4slsr@gmail.com





BELLATOR

Charity Palmcard

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

1. Free Cataract Surgeries for Civilians



The Eye Unit of Teaching Hospital Jaffna, in collaboration with the Army Base Hospital, Palaly, provided over 2,000 free, high-quality cataract surgeries from 14 to 25 October 2024 at Teaching Hospital, Jaffna.

2. Assisting to Rebuild Damaged Tank Bund



Troops from the 10 (V) Gemunu Watch reconstructed the partially damaged Kudariwaththakulam tank bund on 24 October 2024 within few hours.

3. Community Project for Elders



The 10 Sri Lanka National Guard (SLNG) provided lunch, medicine and stationery items for elderly individuals and children at Urban Elders and Children's Home in Battaramulla on 10 October 2024.

4. Beach Cleaning Programme



Troops of 591 Infantry Brigade organised a beach cleaning programme at Mullaitivu beach on 07 October 2024 and cleaned 1,500 meters of coastal line.

5. 'Kiri Bath Dansala' on Vap Full Moon Poya Day



Troops of 211 Infantry Brigade organised a 'Kiri Bath Dansala' at the sacred Ruwanweli Maha Seya in the Vap Full Moon Poya Day (on 17 October 2024).

6. Awareness Walk Against Cancer



Troops from the 23rd Battalion of the Gemunu Watch participated in a public awareness walk against cancer organised by the Office of the Regional Director of Health Services – Kilinochchi on 16 October 2024.

7. Lunch for Pre-School Children



Troops of the 23 Gemunu Watch (GW) organised a special lunch for 18 children from Vinayagar Pre-School, Pachchilapalli on 10 October 2024.

8. Donation Programme



In celebration of World Children's Day, the troops of the 18 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment (VIR) organised a donation programme at the Vision Hope Day Care Centre in Pandirippu on 01 October 2024.

9. Book Donation Programme



Troops of 5 Sri Lanka National Guard (SLNG), organised a book donation programme on 04 October 2024 at Wimalaghana Maha Vidyalaya, Thanthirimale.

10. New Home for Needy Family in Pampaimadu



The 17 (V) Sri Lanka Light Infantry (SLLI) troops, completed and vested a new house for a deserving family in Pampaimadu on 19 October 2024.

11. Blood Donation Programme



The 591 Infantry Brigade organised a blood donation programme at Brigade Headquarters, Mullaitivu on 10 October 2024.

12. Book Donation Programme



The troops of the 20 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment (SLSR) organised a book and stationery donation programme on 20 October 2024 at Sri Sidhartha Dhamma School in Badalkumbura, Monaragala.



Army Inter Regiment Squash Championship 2024



EXCELLENCE
IN PLAYGROUND

The Army Inter Regiment Squash Championship was successfully held on 07 October 2024 at the Squash Court, Panagoda with the participation of players from 13 different regiments. The Gajaba Regiment emerged as champions in the Men's Open Team Championship, pushing the Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers into the runners-up position. In the women's category, the Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps won the Women's Open title, while the Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps finished as runners-up. Major General B K G M L Rodrigo RSP psc IG, Commandant of the Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force and Chairman of the Sri Lanka Army Squash Committee, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and presented awards to the winners.

National Karate Championship 2024

The National Karate Championship – 2024 organised by the Sri Lanka Karate Do Federation was held from 17 October to 18 October 2024 at the Bandaragama indoor stadium with the participation of the athletes from 31 sports clubs. The championship was held under 35 different events

The Sri Lanka Army emerged victorious in the National Karate Championship – 2024 earning 28 Gold Medals, 26 Silver Medals, and 30 Bronze Medals marking the excellence. The Army team participated in the tournament under the supervision of Brigadier R D Sallay ndc, Vice President of the Sri Lanka Army Karate Committee and Army Karate Pool.





Friendly Badminton Tournament at Maradankeni

With the goal of fostering goodwill between the Sri Lanka Army and public officers, the 'Annual Friendly Badminton Tournament' was held on 02 October 2024, at the indoor stadium of the 522 Infantry Brigade. 42 staff members from the Maradankeni Divisional Secretariat, participated in the event upon the request of the Divisional Secretary of Maradankeni.

The tournament was held under the directions of the Major General P R Pathiravithana USAWC psc, General Officer Commanding, 52 Infantry Division and supervision of Colonel S M C A S Samarathunaga RSP, Commander (Acting), 522 Infantry Brigade. The Sri Lanka Army not only provided lunch and refreshments for all participants but also offered their assistance in judging the matches. Lieutenant Colonel H M R D K Herath, Civil Coordinating Officer of 522 Infantry Brigade coordinated the event. This tournament represents a significant step towards strengthening the bond and collaboration between the military and public sector, showcasing sportsmanship and camaraderie.



Inter Regiment Netball Championship - 2024



The Inter Regiment Netball Championship – 2024 was successfully held at Panagoda on 28 September 2024 with the participation of teams representing various regiments. During the final encounter, Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps team defeated the Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps 'A' team winning the Inter Regiment Netball Championship-2024.

05 teams representing various regiments in the Sri Lanka Army took part in the competition and Lance Corporal Senarathne K K A S P of Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps was selected as the Queen of the Netball.

Major General S Kasturimudali RSP ndc psc, General Officer Commanding of the 56 Infantry Division and Colonel Commandant of the Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps, graced the event as the Chief Guest.



Army Inter-Regiment Bodybuilding, Weightlifting and Powerlifting Championship 2024

The Army Inter-Regimental Bodybuilding, Weightlifting, and Powerlifting Tournament - 2024 was held from 22 to 24 October 2024 at the Army Indoor Stadium, Panagoda under the patronage of Major General W B J K Wimalaratne RWP RSP, General Officer Commanding of 51 Infantry Division and Chairman of Army Bodybuilding, Weightlifting, and Powerlifting Committee.

140 male and female athletes, representing 17 regiments, participated in the event, competing in bodybuilding, weightlifting, and powerlifting categories.

After a series of intense and thrilling competitions, the Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps (SLAGSC) claimed victory in the men's weightlifting Championship, while the Sri Lanka Artillery Regiment secured the runner-up position. In the women's category, the SLAGSC also emerged victorious, with the Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps team securing the runner-up position.

In the powerlifting event, the Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment won the Championship, with the Sri Lanka National Guard taking the runner-up title. The bodybuilding Championship was won by the Sri Lanka Signal Corps, with the Gemunu Watch team securing the runner-up position.



New Tennis Court and Calisthenics Park Inaugurated at MIR

The Mechanized Infantry Regiment (MIR) inaugurated a new Tennis Court and Calisthenics Park on 29 October 2024, fulfilling a long-standing need to promote physical fitness and sportsmanship among Officers and Other Ranks. Major General W M S C K Wanasinghe RSP USP, Colonel of the Regiment of MIR and General Officer Commanding of 21 Infantry Division, officially declared open the facilities. After unveiling new facility, an exhibition tennis match was also held at the new tennis court.



Felicitation Ceremony for Keterians for Their Sports Achievements



The Felicitation Ceremony for the Keterian sportsmen was held on 27 October 2024 at the Regimental Headquarters. Major General M G W W M C B Wickramasinghe RWP RSP ndu psc, Commander Security Forces (Jaffna) and Colonel of the Regiment of the Gajaba Regiment, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The Chief Guest of the event, recognising the commitment and effort, awarded the certificates and awards to the athletes and their coaches. The event was coloured with a vibrant dance and cultural performance and the participation of Officers and Other Ranks.

Army Inter-Regiment Elle Championship - 2024



The Army Inter-Regiment Elle Championship – 2024, organised by the Sri Lanka Army Elle Committee concluded successfully at Mahinda Rajapaksa Stadium, Diyagama on 25 October 2024, showcasing the skills of over 300 players from 12 regiments.

In a competitive men's final, the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps (SLASC) defeated the Sri Lanka Light Infantry (SLLI) to clinch the championship trophy, with the Sri Lanka National Guard (SLNG) securing third place. Corporal Jayarathne R A S H of SLASC was awarded Best Player, Infantryman Maduwantha L H A J of SLLI received Best Fielder, and Lance Corporal Lakmal K I of SLNG was named Best Batsman.

In the women's final, 1 Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps (SLAWC) emerged as champions, defeating 2 (V) SLAWC. Sergeant Wimalarathna K M S S of 1 SLAWC received the awards for Best Woman Player and Best Batsman, while Corporal Indrawansha N L S K of 2 (V) SLAWC was recognised as Best Fielder.

Major General K V N P Premaratne RSP USP psc, Chief of Staff at the Office of the Chief of Defence Staff and Chairman of the Army Elle Committee, graced the event as the Chief Guest and presented awards and trophies to the winners. Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks attended the event.



SFHQ (East) Celebrates 21st Anniversary

A Volleyball and Softball Cricket Tournament was held on 31 October 2024 in line with the 21st anniversary of Security Force Headquarters (East) on 27 October 2024 at Welikanda. A total of sixteen teams competed and 7 Sri Lanka Engineers clinched the Volleyball championship, pushing 3 (V) Military Intelligence Corps to the runners up position. The Logistic Command team won the closely contested cricket championship pushing Security Force Headquarters (East) to the position of runners up. Special awards were also distributed recognising outstanding individual performances. Major General S A Kulatunge RWP RSP VSV USP psc, Commander, Security Forces (East), graced the event as the Chief Guest and awarded trophies to the winners.



Army Inter-Regiment Chess Championship - 2024

The Army Inter-Regiment Chess Championship concluded on 25 October 2024 at the Regimental Centre, Sri Lanka Signal Corps, Panagoda. Players from 14 regiments displayed their exceptional skills competing in three events to claim championship title. The Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps secured the overall Chess Championship while Corps of Engineers Services secured runners-up position.

Following a series of closely contested matches, the Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps emerged as the champions in the Men's Open Team Championship, while the Corps of Engineers Services secured the runners-up position. In the Women's Open Team Championship, the Sri Lanka Engineers won the title, with the Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps claiming the runner-up position.

Major General S W B Welagedara RSP VSV USP ndc, Director General Infantry and Chairman of the Sri Lanka Army Chess Committee, graced the finals and prize awarding ceremony as the Chief Guest. Major General D K S K Dolage USP psc, the Commandant of Defence Services Command and Staff College, Colonel M M M P Mahesh Kumara, Vice Chairman of the Sri Lanka Army Chess Committee, Senior Officers, Officers and Other Ranks attended the event.



Soft Ball Cricket Encounter at Security Force Headquarters (Wanni)

Coinciding with 75th Anniversary Celebration, Security Force Headquarters (Wanni) organised Soft Ball Cricket tournament within the branches of Security Force Headquarters (Wanni) on 03 October 2024 at Force Headquarters playground. Seven teams took part in the tournament and Provost Company team of 3 Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police emerged as the champions, pushing the Commander's Security team to Runner-Up.

A musical fiesta was staged at the evening following a distribution of dry ration packs each worth more than Rs. 5,000.00 among 36 civil employees serving in the Security Forces Headquarters (Wanni). Major General J P C Peiris RWP RSP ndc, Commander, Security Forces (Wanni) graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.



Friendly Cricket Tournament at 11 Infantry Division

A friendly Cricket Tournament took place on 21 and 29 October 2024 at the 1 Sri Lanka Rifle Corps (SLRC) Ground under the guidance of Major General K A U Kodithuwakku RSP USP psc IG, General Officer Commanding of the 11 Infantry Division.

Number of teams representing brigades and battalions under command to the 11 Infantry Division participated in the tournament. During the final match, the 2 Sri Lanka Rifle Corps team emerged as champions, defeating the 642 Infantry Brigade team.





COMIC CORNER

Why do cows have hooves instead of feet?

Because they lac tose!



I only know 25 letters of the alphabet. I don't know Y.



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 GENERAL

Major General
KAN Rasika Kumara ndc psc



ADVISOR

Lieutenant Colonel
MIS Chandrakumara
USP psc IG SLA



EDITOR

Captain
KVN Lakmali SLAGSC

COMPUTER FONTS, COVER DESIGN AND PAGE LAYOUT

S/ 752158 WO11 Senarathna GC - 3 CES
S/ 753797 Cpl Kumarasinghe MGAM - 11 CES

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



75 Special Stamp for Army Anniversary



The Philatelic Bureau of the Postal Department issued a special commemorative stamp in line with the 75th Anniversary of the Sri Lanka Army. Lieutenant General H L V M Liyanage RWP RSP ndu, Commander of the Army, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The event held following the main segment took place at the Sri Lanka Light Infantry, Army Cantonment in Panagoda. Mr. S R W M R P Sathkumara, the Post Master General, Mr. D A Rajitha K Ranasinghe, the Deputy Postmaster General and their staff participated in the event and the anniversary first cover was stamped and formally released to the public at the occasion.





*The heroic
memories.....*

*Behind each sole, was a tale to told,
Behind each tale, was a bold life
Thou soles print in soil with grace
On a land kept safe by the brave*

**Selfless hearts of divine youth
Gave their all full and full
Left a land with dignity and bright
To last long together in peace**

**Defender of the Nation
celebrates
the 75th Anniversary**