

65TH

INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS IN TRINCOMALEE



President Mahinda Rajapaksa and First Lady Shiranthi Rajapaksa being welcomed on the occasion by Prime Minister D M Jayaratne and Public Administration and Home Affairs Minister W D J Seneviratne



President Mahinda Rajapaksa greeting the massive crowds



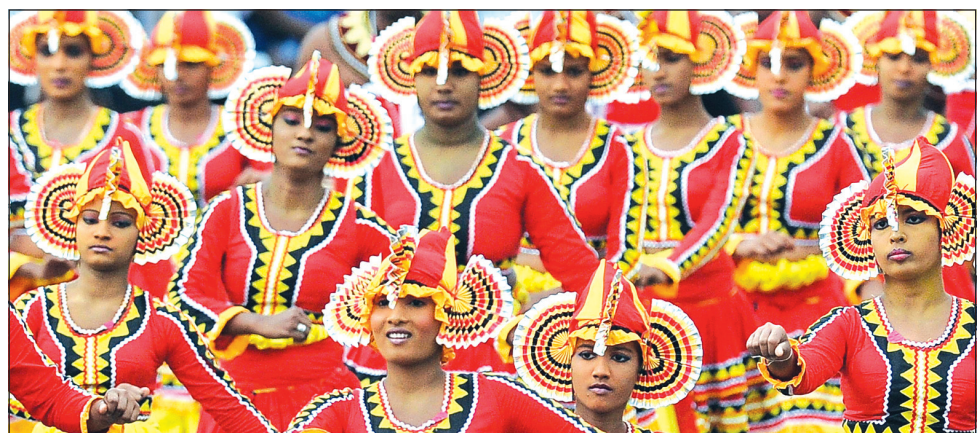
President Mahinda Rajapaksa and First Lady Shiranthi Rajapaksa accompanied by service commanders on arrival



Secretary to the President Lalith Weeratunga and other special invitees stand to attention for the National Anthem



Air Force personnel



Traditional dancers at the Independence Day celebrations



Various dances as part of the cultural show



Kandyan dancers

Sri Lanka's 65th independence anniversary celebrated yesterday on a grand scale was held under the theme 'A Glorious Motherland - A Flourishing Tomorrow' (*Asirimath Mawubimak - Isurumath Heta Dinak*) in Trincomalee.

Over 2,500 invitees including members of the diplomatic corps and

foreign embassies attended the event. A large number of clergy representing all religions took part in the 65th Independence Day celebrations.



First Lady Shiranthi Rajapaksa, Prime Minister D M Jayaratne, Speaker Chamal Rajapaksa, Parliamentarian Namal Rajapaksa, Yoshitha Rajapaksa, Rohitha Rajapaksa at the Independence Day celebrations



Chief Justice Mohan Peiris and a section of the Ministers and special dignitaries at the Independence Day celebrations

Pictures by
Sudath Silva
and Sudath
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Civil Defence Forces



Female Police personnel



National Youth Corps



Special Task Force personnel