A combination of factors led to the defeat of the LTTE in Sri Lanka, 33 years after its formation. Prabhakaran's blunders, the loss of Indian sympathy, and China's strategic interests were vital, experts tell The Mag

**Rohangunaratne G Sampath**

Indian intelligence was vital in intercepting ships, international terrorism expert Rohan Gurnatharats says:

> The Sri Lankan navy intercepted and destroyed ships carrying supplies for the LTTE. The Indian intelligence services were vital in this.

**Frank J Cillofello**

Turning down peace

Many experts who chose the LTTE for long believed that a political solution was the only answer when the peace processes started. When the Liberal, Rental, Woolfsmans—rather to power in 2001, it was the last opportunity for Prabhakaran to politically cement the military victories of the past. Now, even in the wake of the Sarath Fonseka signing the ceasefire agreement, which was terminated by repeated violations of the ceasefire, the possibility of continued fighting is low. It is far preferable to fight than to negotiate, according to many experts. This is the main reason why the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case. After the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi, the LTTE's strategic interests were vital, experts tell The Mag. The Rajiv Gandhi assassination case. After the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi, the LTTE's strategic interests were vital, experts tell The Mag.

> No, and the main reason is that they have lost popular Tamil support. They have come to support the Tamil cause. But Prabhakaran has made a lot of enemies in the Tamil community. The other reason is that the LTTE has not been able to defeat the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case. After the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi, the LTTE's strategic interests were vital.

**Josy Joseph**

Military wizard, political novice

Prabhakaran's decision to enhance relations with Tamil leaders was a major mistake, according to many experts. The LTTE's strategy was to create a political vacuum in which it could operate. This strategy worked because the Tamil politicians were forced to work with the LTTE. However, with Prabhakaran's death, the LTTE found it difficult to operate. The LTTE found it difficult to operate in the Tamil community. Prabhakaran and the LTTE leadership were to later regret their decision to enter into talks with the Tamil politicians. It is this anger that many use today to justify the LTTE's continued fighting.

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The Chinese hand proved decisive

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