Wilpattu National Park springs to life

ST DANNYEN VYASNA

I t was May 14, 1983, and the time had come for the first national wildlife transplant in the history of Sri Lanka. The efforts of the late Dr. Mohan de Silva and his team in establishing the Wilpattu National Park had finally borne fruit.

The park was designated as a national park on May 15, 1983, and the day was marked with a special wildlife release ceremony. Among those present were wildlife enthusiasts, conservationists, and government officials. The release of the transplanted animals was a significant milestone in the conservation efforts of the country.

Wilpattu National Park covers an area of 7,800 hectares and is located on the northwest coast of Sri Lanka. It is known for its rich biodiversity and is home to various species of flora and fauna. The park is particularly famous for its population of elephants and leopards.

The wildlife release ceremony was a momentous occasion, and the presence of the transplanted animals added a touch of life and vibrancy to the park. The release of these animals was an important step in the conservation of wildlife and the protection of their natural habitats.

In conclusion, Wilpattu National Park has played a vital role in the conservation of wildlife in Sri Lanka. The national park continues to be a symbol of the country's commitment to preserving its natural heritage and ensuring the survival of its rich biodiversity.