

Negligence cause of disaster

THE ISLAND
2.10.94

by Prabath Sahabandu

Negligence of the crew on board the ill-fated Navy vessel 'Sagarawar-

dane' which was sunk by suicide Sea Tiger squads on September 19 had resulted in the disaster, the report on the incident

submitted to the government by Navy Commander Mohan Samarasekera reveals.

The report says the Navy had advance information that the Sea Tigers were bracing for an attack on the Navy vessels patrolling the sea off Mannar. Military Intelligence had warned the Navy against a probable attack on the day of the disaster and Navy Headquarters in turn had ordered the Sagarawardane which was in the area to patrol the seas carefully.

The 'Sagarawardane', the report says, had been anchored at the time of the attack, despite