

FLO LOGICATION ARY LIBERATION FRONT

EPRLF's Position on the Bengalore Parley

We give below the text of the statement issued by our Secretary General Comrade K Pathmanaba on the recently concluded Bengalore Parley.

We not having participated in the Bengalore parley involving the Sri Lankan Govt, the Govt of India, the State Govt of Tamil Nadu, and the Libration Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), stand ignorant of the nature and content of the new proposals. However we give below our views on the latest proposal as reported in the news media.

- There is nothing in the set of proposal that addresses the basic non-negotiable demand enunciated in the ENLF memorandum of 3rd November which was presented to the Govt of India through the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.
- The latest proposal appears to be a retrogression than an improvement from the earlier proposals. Since not only it continued to treat the northern and eastern provinces as two distinct entities but it further sought to bifocate the eastern province into three entities.
- The idea about the boundary commission being given the task of demarcating the Tamil areas of Trincomalee and Baticoloa district is obnoxious since it seeks to rewrite history. It also seeks to conceal the state aided colonisation scheme and their role in undermining territorial integrity and continuity of our homeland, in addition to changing its demographic composition of our homeland to the detriment of the Eelam people.
- We have time and again taken the position that there can be no solution to the Nationality problem in Sri Lanka that excluded the plantation Tamils and the area developed and inhabited by them for generations.

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We also wish to take this opportunity to state categorically that despite the fact that LTTE was the only Eelam organisation present at the Bengalore Parley neither the EPRLF nor the Eelam people recognise the LTTE as the sole representative. Neither did the EPRLF nor any other Eelam organisation (including the LTTE) recognise the TULF as the sole

representative of the Eelam people purely because it was the sole participant in the direct talks with the JR regime mediated through the good offices of the Govt of India. It now remains to be seen whether the LTTE would stand firm on the fundamental non-negotiable principles placed at the Thimbu conference or whether it would take the path of compromises and betrayals by the TULF.

The burden of assuring our people that there will be no betrayals lies with the LTTE. Unfortunately the responses given by the LTTE to the news media as reagrd to the position it took at the Bengalore Parley are not entirely convincing.

K Pathmanaba
(Sgd)
Secretary General

Madrass 17/11/1986