



ஈழ மக்கள் புரட்சிகர விடுதலை முன்னணி EELAM PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY LIBERATION FRONT

P R E S S R E L E A S E

STATEMENT ON REPORTS ON CEASEFIRE ISSUED BY THE EELAM PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY LIBERATION FRONT (EPRLF)

The past few days have witnessed widespread speculations in the international news media on moves to bring about 'cessation on hostilities' or a 'ceasefire' as a means of creating a climate for a negotiated settlement to the prevailing armed conflict between the Sri Lankan State and Eelam Liberation Movement. While we recognize in principle the need to create the conditions that would lead to the cessation of State Terrorism and Genocide unleashed by the Sri Lankan neo-fascist State against our people and which would pave the way for the removal of all forms of national oppression, we cannot be party to farcial 'settlements' which could be used by the Sri Lankan State as a smokescreen to pursue a military solution, as it has consistently done in the past.

Based on the above, the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), after consultations with its partners within the Eelam National Liberation Front (ENLF), has taken a firm position that it would agree to a ceasefire, only if the Sri Lankan Government agrees to the following conditions:

- (1) The immediate lifting of the Prohibition Zone, the Surveillance Zone and all other regulations prohibiting the movement of people and vehicles in the affected areas;
- (2) The Sri Lankan armed forces to be confined to their barracks and steps be initiated to withdraw them completely from the Tamil areas;
- (3) All state-aided Sinhala settlements intended to change the demographic composition of the Tamil traditional homeland and used as a base for military and para-military operations and training should cease immediately and steps be initiated to dismantle them completely.
- (4) Release of all political detainees and the cessation of all acts of indiscriminate and illegal arrests of civilians.
- (5) Agree to an international inquiry into all acts of atrocities committed by the Sri Lankan security forces against the Tamil civilian population.

We wish to state categorically, that any genuine moves by the Sri Lankan government to bring about a political solution that addresses the fundamental grievances of our people would be reciprocated by us in a positive manner. By the same token, we are equally firm that any attempts by the Sri Lankan State to impose a military solution and intensify on its acts of terror and genocide against our people would be reciprocated by the full might of our arms.

17th June, 1985.

NEW DELHI.

OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN OF EPRLF