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## Sri Lankan problem

In his letter (Dec. 23) while welcoming the presidential election in Sri Lanka, Asoka Weerasinghe said, India should let sovereign Sri Lanka solve its own "internal problem" and stop "fomenting the crisis with Indian-sponsored separatist terrorism."

The successive Sri Lankan provincial elections starting from April 28, 1988, and finally the Dec. 19 presidential election, hardly showed any sign of India's fomenting any crisis in Sri Lanka.

The presence of the Indian peace-keeping forces in Sri Lanka according to the India-Sri Lanka Accord of July 19, 1987, only helped the separatists' troubled northern and eastern provinces of Sri Lanka to elect their council members peacefully where a healthy 70 per cent of the voters cast their ballots, defying the threats of the separatists' violence that had plagued Sri Lanka for six years. Six hundred or more Indian soldiers have sacrificed their lives in Sri Lanka.

The *Citizen's* editorial, "Indian forces could be unifier," reflected more truly on Sri Lanka's post-presidential election realities.

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