

National Govt. not the 'only solution' to end N-E war- TELO, ESPLF, TULF. (1993, July 22). *The Island*.

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by Wilson Gnanadass

The Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO), Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) and Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) have expressed their reservations about on-going efforts by certain opposition political parties to bring a "lasting solution" to the North East conflict, by way of coalescing with the ruling UNP government.

Expressing doubts about the whole affair TELO, EPRLF and TULF say that a national government was not the "only solution" to the decade old civil war in the country. A concerted effort made by the government on the other hand could bring about a solution to the crisis.

"Joining the government alone will not help to overcome the North-East conflict. What is imperative is to work out a proper package to bring a permanent settlement to the senseless war" an EPRLF stalwart said. "The formation of the national government should be result-oriented. If the opposition members joined the ruling party in a bid to fulfil their "vested interests" then the primary objective of overcoming the situation and ensuring the rights of the Tamil minority will be lost", the EPRLF stalwart noted. "The government should device a common strategy to end the N-E war and with this in view there can be some changes effected in the government. But no one can be positive that the national government will bring a solution to the North East war", the spokesman said.

A key TELO activist said that his group was sceptical about the formation of a national government. The government will not be able to satisfactorily resolve the North-East crisis merely by forming a national government.

"How can the very people who did nothing to end the war when they were in power bring immediate solutions to this problem now," he asked.

He said that as a first step towards resolving the problem the 13th Amendment to the constitution should be implemented and the devolution of powers to the Provincial Councils should be fully executed. "If this is done then there will be no need to form a national government," he explained.

A prominent TULF member said that the government should prove to the masses that the formation of a national government will be the solution to the current conflict.