

Review of the Proposal for ISGA

Thursday, 13 November 2003

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The proposal by the LTTE on behalf of the Tamil people for an agreement to establish an Interim Self Governing Authority for the North East of the Island of Sri Lanka reads the preamble of the LTTE proposal, and therefore every single Tamil person in Sri Lanka has the right to comment on this proposal. It is this inalienable right the reviewer exercises here.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) has submitted a proposal to set up an Interim Self Governing Authority (ISGA) for the North&East (N&E) Province of Sri Lanka. This is the first time the LTTE has come out with its own proposals for the resolution of the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka, which is a positive development. The ISGA proposal is an astutely crafted and well-written document that deserves praise. Besides, LTTE's proposition for a secular ISGA is laudable. However, these proposals go beyond an "interim" administrative mechanism. Nonetheless, these proposals provide a sound basis for negotiating a final solution to the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka. In any case, the executive powers sought by the proposed ISGA (whether in the interim or in the final solution) can be vested only to the representatives of the people of the N&E Province who are directly and freely elected by the people themselves. This review is written purely in the interest of the freedom and welfare of the people, especially Tamil-speaking, of the N&E Province of Sri Lanka. ISGA Review-November 2003.pdf