

What's happening to the interim council? (1995, September 10). *The Sunday times*.

# What's happening to the interim council?

By Shelani de Silva.

Question marks hang over the Government's plan to set up an interim advisory council for the North-East - with some Tamil parties saying it has been shelved, but others still hoping for such a council.

President Kumaratunga, had during the past few months, briefed Tamil party leaders on the plan for the council, but the

response was mixed.

TULF leader, M. Sivasithamparam said the government had not officially informed the party whether the plan for the council was still on or off. The TULF had expressed reservations regarding the council.

PLOTE leader D. Sidarthan said none of the Tamil parties appear to be aware of what was happening. If the government

wished to form such a council it should work on it," he said.

In contrast, EPDP leader, Douglas Devananda was confident the government would form the advisory body. "The plan is definitely not called off. It is not easy to form such a body. It takes a lot of planning so it cannot be done overnight. I must admit that the government has taken a long time, but things will be worked out soon", he said.