

Srinivasan pleads again for federal system. (1993, July 18). *The Sunday Times*.

In appeals to Select Committee and foreign govts...

Srinivasan pleads again for federal system

Jaffna District M.P. K. Srinivasan has called on the international community to support a "federal political solution" for Sri Lanka.

In letters sent to several Heads of State last week Mr. Srinivasan said that federalism is an inevitable alternative to the Indo-Lankan Accord.

"The right time has come for you and your people to demonstrate your solidarity and support to the federal political solution, which will bring peace to the divided country and strengthen the unity of the country," the letter states.

Meanwhile, Mr. Srinivasan has made another strong appeal for consideration of his proposal to settle the ethnic conflict through a federal system.

In a letter to the Parliamentary Select Committee he states:

I hereby thank you all with appreciation for



**K. Srinivasan:
Federal Lanka**

your continued support to my proposal.

I have discussed in detail at home and abroad with most of the concerned people about the deteriorating situation in Sri Lanka politically and economically. Any political solution to the national crisis should be aimed at the complete elimination of any form of national oppression on any community in Sri Lanka.

If the Tamils should

give up their fight for their right of secession the Sinhala leaders accept a package of measures that will ensure the protection of the political, economical and national rights of Tamil people and that they are willing to allow and facilitate the full implementation of those measures and to accept the reality that Sri Lanka is a multi-ethnic and multi-lingual plural society consisting of Sinhalese, Tamils and Muslims and recognising that they have well defined history and each ethnic group has a distinct cultural and linguistic identity, and also recognising that the Northern and the Eastern Provinces have been areas of historical habitation of Sri Lankan Tamil speaking peoples, who have at all times hitherto lived together in the territory with other ethnic groups.

When such political wisdom is demonstrated in practice by Sinhala political leaders then the Tamil people themselves

may choose not to exercise their right of secession.

Given to the utmost importance to the political aspiration of the people of North and East and recognising the unfounded fear in the minds of the people of South, taking the day to day suffering of the people of North and East and to stop any further innocent people getting killed, I have tabled a proposal on the basis of 'FEDERALISM' as an inevitable alternative to the Indo-Sri Lanka accord of 29th July 1987.

I plead the Select Committee to accept my proposal on its absolute composite and strengthen if necessary so that it will not only meet the aspiration of the people of North and East but of all the oppressed people of Sri Lanka.

Let us first federate Sri Lanka blossom into a United Federal Republic of Sri Lanka which will play a vital historic role in the economic and political stability of the South Asian Region and its commitment to world peace.