

'Violent politics creeping into T'Nadu'. (1993, December 05). *Daily News*.

VOL. 76 NO. 291

Established: 3-1-1918

DAILY NEWS

MONDAY DECEMBER 06, 1993

Karunanidhi warns of LTTE gun culture

'Violent politics creeping into T'Nadu'

From: *Commedia in Madras*

Madras DMK President M. Karunanidhi, has hinted that the rebel Gopalsamy group, is preparing the ground for the introduction of "gun culture" in Tamil Nadu in aid of the LTTE.

Speaking to the press in Tiruchi Mr. Karunanidhi said that from the violent methods adopted by the Gopalsamy group to wrest DMK offices in various parts of Tamil Nadu, it was clear that the idea was to introduce violent politics so as to create conditions for the growth of the "gun culture" in the state.

In Tamil Nadu, the term 'gun culture' came into use since the advent of the Sri Lankan Tamil militants, as it was these groups which introduced the "shoot out" in the state, when they fought among themselves or indulged in armed robberies. The DMK had said times without number that while it supported the cause of the Eelam Tamils, it would not allow the introduction of the gun culture in Tamil Nadu.

In the factional fight between Mr. Karunanidhi and Mr. Gopalsamy, the latter is accused of being a handmaid of the LTTE, which according to Mr. Karunanidhi not only wants Tamil Nadu to secede from India but the DMK to go out of his hands and into those of the "more genuine" Tamil nationalist,

Mr. Gopalsamy.

At Trichi, Mr. Karunanidhi charged the LTTE of interference in the internal affairs of the DMK and said that his party only wanted the various Sri Lankan militant groups to stop the "fratricidal war" *Sahodara yudham* and unite for the common Tamil good. He refrained from commenting on conflicts within the LTTE or any other group. Pro-LTTE journals were harping on the internal conflict in the DMK and taking sides on the leadership issue.

"Going by the LTTE journals' comments on the leadership question, about family rule in the DMK, (issues taken up by Mr. Gopalsamy) one is led to suspect a link between the LTTE and those who raise these issues here," Mr. Karunanidhi said.

Accusing Mr. Gopalsamy of maintaining links with a banned organisation (the LTTE had been banned in India after the assassination of former Prime Minister Mr. Rajiv Gandhi in 1991), Mr. Karunanidhi said: "This is not only intolerable but

unlawful."

Earlier this week, Mr. Karunanidhi reproduced in his party journal *Murasoli*, a long piece from the LTTE journal *Kalaththil* which spoke of a "resurgence" of Tamil nationalism/separatism in Tamil Nadu following New Delhi's "failure" to solve the Cauvery river waters dispute and the "imposition" of Hindi on Tamils. *Kalaththil* had gone on to say that this resurgence was being led by Mr. Gopalsamy.

"It is noteworthy that Mr. Gopalsamy is pro-Eelam Tamil and Tamils across the world are watching with interest how Mr. Gopalsamy leads the resurgent Tamil nationalism in Tamil Nadu," the journal said.

The LTTE journals quoted Mr. Gopalsamy's article in the Tamil Nadu journal *Lakshia Eadai* to prove his Tamil nationalist/separatist credentials. The DMK rebel had said that in the 21st century, the map of India would have to be "redrawn".