

Text of the D.O. Letter dated 1.8.2016 of **Selvi J Jayalithaa**, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu addressed to **Shri Narendra Modi**, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India:

"The Government of India has introduced "The High Courts (Alteration of Names) Bill, 2016" in the Lok Sabha on 19.7.2016 in order to rename the High Courts of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. As per this Bill, from the appointed day, the High Court of Madras shall be known as the High Court of Chennai.

Based on overwhelming public opinion in Tamil Nadu, the proposed change of name was debated in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly. After a detailed discussion, the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly unanimously passed a Resolution on 1.8.2016, to call upon the Government of India to move necessary amendments to the Bill introduced in the Lok Sabha so as to rename the High Court of Madras as the High Court of Tamil Nadu for the reasons outlined in the Resolution.

The text of Resolution passed unanimously in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 1.8.2016 is appended. I request the Government of India to take immediate further action on the basis of the Resolution."

**Text of the Resolution placed and carried unanimously in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 1.8.2016.**

**RESOLUTION**

The Government of India has introduced the "The High Courts (Alteration of Names) Bill, 2016" in the Lok Sabha on 19.7.2016 in order to rename the Bombay, Calcutta and Madras High Courts. As per this Bill, from the appointed day, the High Court of Madras shall be known as the High Court of Chennai.

On 18.7.1967, the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly passed a Resolution to change the name of the State known as Madras State in the Constitution of India to Tamil Nadu, based on which Parliament enacted a law in 1968 and our State came to be known as Tamil Nadu from 14.1.1969.

The City of Madras was renamed as Chennai by an Act passed in 1996. As per that Act, Chennai denotes only the City of Chennai.

As the High Court which is situated in the City of Chennai has jurisdiction over the whole State of Tamil Nadu; as after the passage of the States Reorganization Act, 1956, which reorganized States on a linguistic basis, the High Courts of those States came to be known by the names of the respective States; as the High Court presently known as the High Court of Madras has a Bench functioning at Madurai, it would not be appropriate to name the High Court which has jurisdiction over the whole of Tamil Nadu as the High Court of Chennai; and hence it is befitting that the High Court which is presently called the High Court of Madras be renamed as the High Court of Tamil Nadu; this House calls upon the Government of India to move necessary amendments to the Bill introduced in the Lok Sabha so as to change the name of the High Court of Madras as the High Court of Tamil Nadu instead of High Court of Chennai.

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**Dated: 1.8.2016**