

PRESS RELEASE

Text of the D.O. letter dated 4.9.2018 of Thiru **Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu addressed to **Shri Narendra Modi**, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

I am constrained to bring to your notice, the Government of Karnataka's unilateral action in having approached the Central Water Commission for clearance to the Feasibility Report of Mokedatu Balancing Reservoir cum Drinking Water Project with an installed capacity (400 MW) at an estimated cost of Rs.5912 crore across the river Cauvery.

I would like to point out that this action of Karnataka is in violation of the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal and the Hon'ble Supreme Court and also in contravention to the directives of the Government of India to share the plans with the co-basin States for their consent before proposing any new schemes.

As you are aware, the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court prescribes the total quantity of water to be used for consumptive use by all the Party States. This proposal of Karnataka to build a reservoir at Mokedatu across the Cauvery river would amount to a clear violation of the Final Order of the Tribunal and the judgment of the Supreme Court. The proposed reservoir will affect the natural flow of the river Cauvery and will nullify the Final Order of the Tribunal and the Supreme Court. In a federal structure, no upper riparian State should unilaterally interfere with the natural flow of an inter-State river without the consent and concurrence of the lower riparian States.

I would like to point out that the Government of Karnataka has not approached the Government of Tamil Nadu seeking

concurrence for its Mokedatu Project. Instead it has directly approached the Central Water Commission in contravention to the guidelines / procedure laid down by the Government of India.

The Central Water Commission ought not to have processed the proposal of Karnataka to construct a balancing reservoir at Mokedatu and instead should have advised Karnataka to get the concurrence of Tamil Nadu and other co-basin States at the outset.

This unilateral action of Karnataka has caused great alarm and apprehension among the people of Tamil Nadu as it will affect the livelihood of lakhs of farmers who depend on Cauvery water.

I, therefore, request you to kindly instruct the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation to direct the Central Water Commission to stop forthwith further processing of the Feasibility Report of the Government of Karnataka to construct a Balancing Reservoir at Mokedatu across the river Cauvery and not to give any consent to any projects in the river Cauvery without obtaining the prior concurrence of Tamil Nadu and other co-basin States.

I look forward to your immediate positive reply.

Issued by: Director, Information and Public Relations, Chennai-9.

Date : 4.9.2018