

PRESS RELEASE

The Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy, Government of India, Thiru Piyush Goyal had a meeting with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru O. Panneerselvam at the Secretariat today (7.3.2015). The Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition & Excise Thiru Natham R. Viswanathan was also present.

The Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy, Government of India, Thiru Piyush Goyal paid his respects to Puratchi Thalaivi Amma and stated that it was Puratchi Thalaivi Amma who has led the State towards attaining self sufficiency in power and has piloted the State to a new phase of growth. The Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy stated that Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has made Tamil Nadu one of the best States on the energy front and the State is poised to become a power surplus State. The Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy stated that he was delighted to see the good work done on the renewable energy side by the Government of Tamil Nadu which has pursued this as a mission. The Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy also praised the bold initiative taken by Puratchi Thalaivi Amma on the Nuclear Energy front and stated that Tamil Nadu can be very proud of its achievements on this front also.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister in his opening remarks pointed out that Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had made a solemn commitment to the people of Tamil Nadu that the State would be made into a power surplus State. In keeping with the commitment, the State under the visionary guidance of Puratchi Thalaivi Amma is moving steadily and swiftly towards the goal of

becoming a power surplus State. The Hon'ble Chief Minister sought the co-operation and assistance of Government of India to enable the State to achieve Energy sufficiency.

The Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise in his remarks stated that when Puratchi Thalaivi Amma took over as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in May, 2011, there was an acute shortage of power in the State. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, gave a commitment to the people of Tamil Nadu to transform the State from a power deficit to a power surplus State. During the last 3½ years under the guidance of Puratchi Thalaivi Amma many steps have been taken to bridge the deficit by commissioning new projects and by signing up Long Term and Short Term agreements with power producers. The Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise pointed out that Tamil Nadu is now at a critical juncture where a final push needs to be given to the efforts taken by Puratchi Thalaivi Amma so that the State is transformed into a power surplus State. The Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise requested the Government of India's co-operation in this regard.

On behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, the following important issues were placed for discussion and early resolution by the Government of India.

It was pointed out that the construction of the Kudankulam Atomic Power Plant 2x1000 MW, Unit-II has been completed and the plant is awaiting trial run. The Government of Tamil Nadu requested for expediting speedy commissioning of the project. It was also requested that 15% of the unallocated share in Kudankulam Unit-II may be allotted to Tamil Nadu.

The Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy, Government of India stated that 100 MW out of the unallocated share of 150 MW will be allotted to Tamil Nadu.

It was pointed out by the Government of Tamil Nadu side that all the three units in TNEB- NTPC JV at Vallur (3x500 MW) have declared commercial operation. **The unallocated share of (15%) 225 MW may be allocated to the host state Tamil Nadu.** Further, the new 2x500 MW NLC-TNEB Joint Venture at Tuticorin Unit-I, has been synchronized with the grid on 18.02.2015. **It was requested that the unallocated share of (15%) i.e. 150MW from these units may be allocated to the host state Tamil Nadu.** In addition the new 2x250 MW NLC-Neyveli TS II Expansion units have been synchronized. **The unallocated share of 75 MW (15%) from these units may also be allocated to the host state Tamil Nadu.**

The Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy, Government of India stated that he will look into these requests and do his best.

The Government of Tamil Nadu requested to allocate a sum of Rs.2385 crores under Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) for system strengthening and infrastructure developments.

The Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy, Government of India stated that Rs.924 crores has been sanctioned to Tamil Nadu under this scheme.

The Government of Tamil Nadu sought the intervention of the Hon'ble Minister for getting clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests,

Government of India for de-reservation of land, which is awaiting approval for commissioning of the TANGEDCO-NLC Joint Venture at Tuticorin. He assured that he will expedite the dereservation order.

The Government of Tamil Nadu requested the Hon'ble Minister to expedite release of the incentive grant of Rs.1051.131 crores to Tamil Nadu as per the recommendation of the Thirteenth Finance Commission for achieving the targets prescribed under Renewable Energy.

The Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy, Government of India assured that the incentive grant of Rs.1051.131 crores will be released to Tamil Nadu before the end of March, 2015.

The Government of Tamil Nadu also requested the Hon'ble Minister to expedite early completion of the bidding process in respect of Cheyyur Ultra Mega Power Project.

The Government of Tamil Nadu also stressed the need to provide immediate allocation of Corridor for supply of power to Tamil Nadu under Long Term Access as Tamil Nadu has already entered into agreement for power purchase of 3330 MW by December, 2013.

It was also pointed out that the Government of Tamil Nadu had already raised its objections to the proposed amendments to the Electricity Act, 2003 to separate Carriage & Content on the ground that it will result in cherry picking of high value consumers by the private players.

The Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy, Government of India was accompanied by Shri R.N. Choubey, I.A.S., Special Secretary, Ministry of Power and other

senior officers. The meeting was attended by Chief Secretary to Government Thiru K.Gnanadesikan, I.A.S., Adviser to Government Tmt. Sheela Balakrishnan, I.A.S., (Rtd.), Principal Secretary to Government, Finance Department Thiru K. Shanmugam, I.A.S., CMD, TANGEDCO Dr. M. Sai Kumar, I.A.S., Secretary to Government, Energy Department Thiru Rajesh Lakhoni, I.A.S., Chairman and Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency, Thiru Sudeep Jain, I.A.S.,

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