PRESS RELEASE

Text of the congratulatory letter dated 10.9.2016 by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa,** Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to Thiru T. Mariyappan, who has won Gold Medal in the High Jump event in the Paralympics held in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil.

"I was delighted to learn that you have won a Gold Medal in the Paralympics currently being held in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. I understand that this is the first time an Indian has won a gold medal in the High Jump event in the Paralympics. By leaping over a height of 1.89 metres, you have leapt into history and done both the Nation and the State of Tamil Nadu proud. Your achievement, overcoming several obstacles and hurdles, will inspire more and more children and youth to overcome adversities and to participate and strive for greater achievements. Kindly accept my heartiest congratulations on behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu on your splendid achievement.

I am very happy to inform you that I have decided that the Government of Tamil Nadu will award you a cash prize of Rs.2 crores on par with Olympic Gold Medal winners from Tamil Nadu.

I congratulate you and all those who have contributed to your success. May you stand forth as a beacon of hope for all those striving to achieve success in their chosen fields overcoming all odds."

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