

Press Release No. 023

Date: 12.01.2016

Text of the D.O. letter dated 12.1.2016 of **Selvi J Jayalithaa**, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu addressed to **Shri Narendra Modi**, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India:

"I had written to you on 22.12.2015, requesting you to arrange for the promulgation of an Ordinance, to enable the holding of Jallikattu. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, had issued a Notification dated 7.1.2016, enabling the conduct of the traditional sport of Jallikattu in different parts of Tamil Nadu as part of the Pongal festivities. On receipt of the Notification, detailed circulars were sent to the District Collectors regarding arrangements to be made for the conduct of Jallikattu, strictly in accordance with the conditions and safeguards indicated in the Notification. On this basis arrangements have been made by organisers all over the State for the conduct of Jallikattu.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court has today granted interim stay of the Notification of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, dated 7.1.2016 and therefore, Jallikattu cannot be conducted on the basis of this Notification. With the Pongal festivities commencing from 14.1.2016, the public in the rural areas of Tamil Nadu have made all arrangements and preparations and are eagerly looking forward to the conduct of Jallikattu as part of the traditional festivities ingrained in the hoary cultural heritage of Tamil Nadu. It is very important that the sentiments of the people of Tamil Nadu, who have a deep attachment to the conduct of the traditional event of Jallikattu, are respected. Hence, considering the urgency of the issue, **I strongly reiterate my earlier request to the Government of India to promulgate an Ordinance forthwith to enable the conduct of Jallikattu.** On behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu I urge you to take immediate action in this regard."

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