

**PRESS RELEASE**

Text of the D.O. letter dated 15.6.2018 of Thiru **Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu addressed to **Shri Narendra Modi**, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

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The media has widely reported that the Union Cabinet on 13.6.2018 has given its approval to the draft Dam Safety Bill, 2018.

As you are aware, when the draft Dam Safety Bill, 2016, was circulated by the Government of India, my revered leader Puratchi Thalaivi Amma on 11.9.2016 conveyed Tamil Nadu's objections to certain clauses of the draft Bill, 2016, since they encroach upon the powers of the State Governments and also the rights conferred on the State by virtue of Inter-State Agreements on the Dams owned, operated and maintained by the Government of Tamil Nadu but located in other State. Hence, it was urged that a legislation on Dam Safety should be re-examined and it should not be proceeded with, in haste, without considering the objections raised by Tamil Nadu threadbare.

The Government of India has not circulated any revised draft after 2016 and it is presumed that the Bill in its original form has been approved by the Union Cabinet on 13.6.2018. This Bill would have wide ramifications on the Dams operated and maintained by State Government especially those Dams which are owned operated and maintained by the Government of Tamil Nadu, but are located in the neighbouring State. I consider it appropriate that consensus of all the States be obtained before bringing forward such a legislation on Dam Safety.

In the circumstances, I request you to kindly keep in abeyance the decision arrived at by the Government of India to legislate an Act on Dam Safety till such time all the States are consulted and consensus is evolved.

I look forward to your immediate reply in the matter.

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**Issued by: Director, Information and Public Relations, Chennai-9.**  
**Date : 15.6.2018**