

PRESS RELEASE

Text of the D.O. letter dated 19.4.2012 addressed by Selvi J Jayalithaa, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to Dr.Manmohan Singh, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India is reproduced below: -

"I understand that the Chairman of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal Shri Justice N.P. Singh has tendered his resignation on health grounds.

As you are aware, the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal has given its Final Order on 5.2.2007 allocating the Cauvery Water among the States. However, the Final Order is yet to be notified. Meanwhile, the petitions under section 5(3) of the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956, seeking explanation or guidance by the party States and the Government of India are pending before the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal since 2007.

The Government of Tamil Nadu on 16.3.2012 filed a Civil Miscellaneous Petition before the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal to take up the pending applications filed by the party States and the Central Government under section 5(3) of the said Act and dispose of the same at the earliest. The Tribunal on 23.3.2012 had also issued notice about listing of this Civil Miscellaneous Petition before the Tribunal on 17.4.2012. However, this Civil Miscellaneous Petition was not take up due to the resignation of Shri Justice N.P. Singh.

At this crucial juncture, the resignation of Shri Justice N.P. Singh as Chairman of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal has caused deep concern and anxiety in the minds of the people of Tamil Nadu.

The Tribunal cannot function without the Chairman as required under section 4(2) of the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956, with its two members. As per section 5A of the said Act, the proceedings of the Tribunal can only be continued if a person is nominated as the Chairman of the Tribunal.

In the circumstances, I seek your personal intervention to appoint a new Chairman for the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal immediately."

Issued by : Director of Information & Public Relations, Chennai – 9.

Date : 19.4.2012