

PRESS RELEASE

Text of the D.O. letter dated 20.6.2018 of Thiru **Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu addressed to **Shri Narendra Modi**, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

The media had widely reported that the Chief Minister of Karnataka requested the Government of India to defer the operation of the Cauvery Water Management Authority and the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee. The Chief Minister of Karnataka is also reported to have stated, inter-alia, that it is advisable to place the Scheme before the two Houses of Parliament and raised other issues for consideration.

It is evident that Karnataka has scant regard to the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and seeks to re-open the adjudicated dispute which attained finality by the judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, dated 16.2.2018. The issues and contentions raised by Karnataka have already been settled by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Orders dated 16.2.2018 and 18.5.2018. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Order dated 18.5.2018 had emphatically held that the Authority should be notified in the official Gazette of Government of India and given effect to with promptitude before the onset of the impending monsoon and become operational.

This request of Karnataka to defer the operation of Cauvery Water Management Authority is another ploy not to comply with the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. It is also an attempt to re-open the already adjudicated dispute which is not permissible.

During the last six years, as Karnataka failed to ensure timely release of water, Tamilnadu suffered severely. In the current year, the farmers of Tamil Nadu have a legitimate expectation that the Cauvery Water Management Authority primarily mandated to implement the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal and the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court, dated 16.2.2018 will ensure the regulated release of water by Karnataka at Billigundulu.

Any further delay in the Cauvery Water Management Authority becoming fully operational would be a violation of the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. It would also seriously prejudice the interests of the farmers of Tamil Nadu.

I, therefore, request you to kindly direct the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation to issue instructions to the Cauvery Water Management Authority to immediately convene its meeting, so that Tamil Nadu could get its due share of water on monthly/10 day basis as per the orders in force.

May I request for an immediate positive response in this matter?

Issued by: Director, Information and Public Relations, Chennai-9.
Date : 20.6.2018