

PRESS RELEASE

Text of the D.O. letter dated 21.6.2012 addressed by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa**, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to **Dr.Manmohan Singh**, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India is reproduced below:-

"I would like to draw your kind attention to disconcerting reports appearing in the media about the Kerala Government's plan to construct a dam across the river Siruvani at Attapadi. It appears that Kerala has planned to build a dam of 4.5 TMC ft capacity on the river Siruvani for the Attapadi Irrigation Scheme. This has caused concern among the people of Tamil Nadu as the inflows into the river Bhavani would be considerably reduced if Kerala goes through with its plan. Further, there is wide apprehension among the people that the entire city of Coimbatore and its adjoining areas, dependent on Siruvani for their drinking water needs, will be totally affected if Kerala is allowed to build the dam.

The Government of Kerala had agitated this issue before the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal claiming 4.5 TMC ft of water for the Attapadi Irrigation Scheme. The Government of Tamil Nadu objected to the claim and the Tribunal in its Final Order dated 5.2.2007 has allocated only 2.87 TMC ft of water to Kerala for the Attapadi Irrigation Scheme. Therefore, the present proposal of Kerala is in violation of the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal.

The Governments of Kerala and Karnataka have appealed in the Supreme Court against the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal and the Government of Tamil Nadu has also approached the Supreme Court on certain aspects of the said Final Order. All the Party States have also filed clarification petitions before the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal under section 5(3) of the Inter State River Water Disputes Act, 1956. These petitions are pending. In these circumstances, it is only proper for the Party States to await either the notification of the Final Order or the judicial decisions before initiating any new scheme in the Cauvery Basin or in its sub basins.

May I, therefore, request you to advise the Government of Kerala not to proceed with the proposed Attapadi Irrigation Scheme or any other scheme on the river Siruvani in violation of the Tribunal's Final Order? I also request you to advise the Central Water Commission not to accord technical clearance for Kerala's proposal of building the dam on river Siruvani.

I request your immediate intervention in this matter to protect the interests of Tamil Nadu."
