

PRESS RELEASE

Text of the D.O. letter dated 22.2.2013 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 :-

"At the outset, I would like to convey my happiness at the publication of the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal dated 5.2.2007 in the Gazette of India on 19.2.2013. I would like to sincerely thank you very much for the notification.

As you would recall, I had been consistently urging you to order the Ministry of Water Resources to notify the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal dated 5.2.2007 in the Gazette of India and to constitute a Cauvery Management Board, without prejudice to the pending Civil Appeals and Reference Petitions in the Supreme Court and the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal respectively.

Now that the Government of India, Ministry of Water Resources, has notified the Final Order of the Tribunal in the Gazette of India, it is binding on all the parties to the dispute. Further, as per Section 6(2) of the Inter State River Water Disputes Act, 1956, the decision of the Tribunal after it is published in the Gazette of India will have the same effect as that of an Order or a Decree of the Supreme Court.

In this context, you may be aware that in the Final Order, the Tribunal has concluded that it would be absolutely necessary to establish a mechanism which should be entrusted with the function / supervision / operation of reservoirs and with regulation of water releases therefrom and has accordingly recommended the establishment of a Cauvery Management Board and a Cauvery Water Regulation Committee, with its composition, role and functions.

In the circumstances, I request you to kindly ensure that the Ministry of Water Resources constitutes a Cauvery Management Board and a Cauvery Water Regulation Committee forthwith, so as to give effect to all the provisions of the Final Order of the Tribunal.

I shall be thankful for your immediate positive response in this matter."

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

Date : 22.2.2013