

**PRESS RELEASE**

Text of the D.O. letter dated 22.12.2012 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 am writing this letter in continuation of my letter dated 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2012, wherein I had requested you to expedite the Notification of the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal and to constitute the Cauvery Management Board and Cauvery Water Regulation Committee.

The storage position in Mettur Reservoir has reached a precarious position and a calamitous situation prevails in the Cauvery fed Districts of Tamil Nadu. As on 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2012, the storage in Mettur Reservoir is just 8.8 TMC ft. The situation in the Cauvery fed Districts has become grim affecting the livelihood and the survival of millions of farmers and agricultural labourers of Tamil Nadu. As you are aware, this year we have been made to run from pillar to post to get our due share of water from Karnataka but, in spite of all our efforts, Karnataka continues to utilise all the waters of the river Cauvery brazenly, as if it owns the river Cauvery, with scant regard to the plight of the lower riparian State. Therefore, I reiterate my earlier demand that the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal should be notified without any further loss of time and the Cauvery Management Board and the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee put in place so that the Final Order of February, 2007, which could not be implemented till date, can be brought to force and the releases to Tamil Nadu by Karnataka can be ensured so that the withering crops can be saved at least to some extent during this distress year.

In this context, I would also like to bring to your notice once again the observation of the Supreme Court on 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2012, wherein the Supreme Court had requested the Additional Solicitor General to seek instructions as to when the Final Order would be notified. In the 31<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Cauvery Monitoring Committee held on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2012, it has been recorded that the Final Order of the Tribunal will be notified at the earliest but not later than the end of this month (December 2012) and this fact has also been taken on record by the Supreme Court on 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2012.

I would also like to draw your attention to the fact that, when the Tribunal pronounced the Interim Order on 25<sup>th</sup> June, 1991, based on the advisory opinion rendered by the Supreme Court on 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 1991, in the Presidential Reference, the Government of India notified the Interim Order of the Tribunal on 10<sup>th</sup> December, 1991, even when a Clarificatory Petition was pending before the Tribunal and a Suit and SLP were pending in the Supreme Court against the Interim Order of the Tribunal. On the same analogy, the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal should be notified immediately.

I hope that you will consider the plight of the farmers and agricultural labourers of Tamil Nadu and instruct the Ministry of Water Resources to notify the Final Order of the Tribunal forthwith.

I shall be thankful for your urgent action in this matter. Expecting an immediate favourable reply. "

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