

PRESS RELEASE

Text of the D.O. letter dated 24.6.2019 of **Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami**, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu addressed to **Shri Narendra Modi**, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

I write this letter seeking your urgent personal intervention to deny permission to the proposal of Cauvery Neeravari Nigama Niyamita of Karnataka for grant of Terms of Reference for Environmental Clearance for Mokedatu Balancing Reservoir and Drinking water project. This action of Karnataka in seeking Environmental Clearance for Mokedatu Project is in utter violation of the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal and the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 16.2.2018. I request you to direct the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to reject outright the proposal of Karnataka.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has been conveying its strong objections and has been urging the Government of India to reject outright and return the Detailed Project Report of the Mokedatu Balancing Reservoir Project of Karnataka. The proposed Mokedatu Project is not in conformity with the Final Order of the Tribunal and the judgment of the Supreme Court, since the Project is not a designated reservoir for the release of water from Karnataka to Tamil Nadu in terms of the Final Order of the Tribunal as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Further, Karnataka has not obtained the prior concurrence of the Government of Tamil Nadu and other co-basin States. Cauvery being a deficit Basin, construction of Mokedatu or any project in any place by upper riparian States will drastically affect the lower riparian States in getting due share of water as per the Final Order of the Tribunal as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Moreover, the matter is pending before the Supreme Court. I have brought these facts to you in the Memorandum I presented on 15.6.2019.

In the circumstances, I request you to direct the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to issue instructions to the Authorities concerned not to consider the proposal of Cauvery Neeravari Nigama Niyamita for grant of Terms of Reference to obtain Environmental Clearance for Mokedatu Balancing Reservoir and Drinking water project. Further, the Ministry of Jal Shakthi may be directed to advise the Central

Water Commission to reject outright and return the Detailed Project Report of the Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir Project of Karnataka and also not to accord any clearance to the above project without obtaining the prior concurrence of the Government of Tamil Nadu and of other co-basin States.

I shall be thankful for your immediate response in the matter.

Issued by: Director, Information and Public Relations, Chennai-9.
Date: 24.6.2019