

PRESS RELEASE

Text of the D.O. letter dated 24.10.2018 of Thiru **Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu addressed to **Shri Narendra Modi**, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

I am constrained to bring to your kind notice, that the Expert Appraisal Committee for River Valley and Hydro Electric Projects functioning under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in its 18th meeting held on 27.9.2018 recommended for grant of Terms of Reference of Kerala's proposal to conduct Environmental Impact Assessment Study for the construction of a New Dam instead of the existing Mullai Periyar Dam. This has caused great apprehension and consternation among the people of Tamil Nadu.

The actions of the Government of Kerala in having approached the Government of India and the Government of India having entertained the proposal of Kerala are in gross violation of the decree of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 7.5.2014 in O.S.No.3 of 2006, which is extracted below:-

"213. In this view of the matter for the construction of new dam, there has to be agreement of both the parties. The offer made by Kerala cannot be thrust upon Tamil Nadu. Issue No.9, therefore, has to be decided against Kerala and it is so held."

Earlier when the Government of Kerala stealthily obtained clearance in August, 2014 without either informing or consulting and obtaining the concurrence of Tamil Nadu for Environmental Impact Assessment Study for construction of New Dam in utter defiance of the decree of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Government of Tamil Nadu had to issue a contempt notice, against the Member-Secretary of the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life and Wild Life Preservation Officer, on 16.5.2015.

You may kindly recall that my revered leader Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma on 10.6.2015 wrote to you seeking your intervention to instruct the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and its Agencies to desist from entertaining and considering the proposal of the Government of Kerala in future and also to negate the proposal as it is a

violation of the decree of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Following this, the Government of India delisted the proposal of Kerala in July, 2015.

Under the circumstances, I seek your immediate personal intervention and request you to direct the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to forthwith withdraw the recommendations to grant Terms of Reference for Environmental Impact Assessment study for the construction of a new Dam by Kerala at Mullai Periyar.

I also request you to advise the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and its Agencies to desist from entertaining and considering any proposal of the Government of Kerala on new Mullai Periyar Dam in future and also to negate the proposals which are in violation of the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Issued by: Director, Information and Public Relations, Chennai-9.
Date : 24.10.2018