

PRESS RELEASE

Text of the D.O. letter dated 9.2.2012 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 invite your attention to Media reports about the Government of Kerala deciding unilaterally to install "real time monitoring system for water build up" in the Mullai Periyar reservoir. According to the Media reports, the Government of Kerala has entered into an agreement with the Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India, to install "real time monitoring system for water build up" in the Mullai Periyar Dam.

As I had pointed out in my earlier letters, the Government of Kerala is persistently engaged in fear mongering about the safety of the Mullai Periyar Dam even though the Supreme Court had held in 2006 that the dam is safe and water could be stored initially up to 142 ft. Currently, the Empowered Committee constituted by the Supreme Court under the Chairmanship of Justice Dr. A.S. Anand is fully seized of the matter regarding the safety of the Mullai Periyar Dam and is likely to submit its report to the Supreme Court shortly. The move by the Kerala Government to install real time monitoring devices is yet another attempt to exacerbate fears in Kerala about the safety of the Dam. It is also an attempt to present a "fait accompli" to the Supreme Court when the matter is *sub judice*.

The Mullai Periyar Dam and its appurtenant structures are owned and maintained by the Government of Tamil Nadu. This unilateral action of the Government of Kerala in ordering real time monitoring of the Mullai Periyar Dam in association with the Government of India, Ministry of Science & Technology, without the consent of Tamil Nadu is a blatant violation of the Principle of Federalism and the Constitutional frame work. May I, therefore, request you to direct the Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India, to immediately desist from entering into any agreement with the Government of Kerala and to annul any agreement if already entered into? I also request you to direct the Department of Science & Technology and the Government of Kerala not to proceed further in any activity against the established rights of Tamil Nadu, since Tamil Nadu is the incontrovertible sole owner of the Mullai Periyar Dam and all its appurtenant structures.

I had in my letter dated 4.12.2011 requested you to order the deployment of the Central Industrial Security Force at the dam site. This unilateral action of the Government of Kerala interfering in the management of the Mullai Periyar Dam only strengthens the basis for my earlier request for the deployment of Central forces at the dam site. I, therefore, request you to order the deployment of the Central Industrial Security Force at the dam site forthwith."

Issued by : Director of Information & Public Relations, Chennai – 9.
Date : 9 .2.2012