

**PRESS RELEASE**

Text of the D.O. letter dated 8.1.2016 of **Selvi J Jayalalithaa**, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu addressed to **Shri Narendra Modi**, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

"I am very happy to learn that the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change have issued a Notification dated 7.1.2016, that has paved the way for the conduct of the traditional sport of "Jallikattu" in different parts of Tamil Nadu as part of the Pongal festivities. You would recall that I have consistently taken up this issue with you. Several rounds of discussions were held by the officials of the Government of Tamil Nadu with the officials of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India. I had reiterated the Government of Tamil Nadu's requests to legally pave the way for conducting Jallikattu in my Memorandum presented to you on 7.8.2015. I had last written to you on December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015, requesting you to arrange for the issue of an Ordinance, if need be, to enable the holding of "Jallikattu".

I am very grateful to you for your prompt response in the matter, which has enabled the conduct of "Jallikattu", a sport which upholds traditional cultural values and traditions of Tamil Nadu and has great historical significance and also ensures the conservation of native germplasm and continuance of traditional breeds of indigenous cattle."

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