

K. GNANADESIKAN, I.A.S.
CHIEF SECRETARY



SECRETARIAT
CHENNAI-600 009

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

D.O. Letter No.14722/C.Spl.1/2015- , Dated: 15-9-2015

Dear Thiru Kaushik Mukherjee,

I am in receipt of your letter dated 9.9.2015.

At the outset, I would like to point out that as on 13.9.2015, as against 111.333 TMC ft. prescribed in the Final Order of the Tribunal, the flow realized at Billigundulu is only 72.817 TMC ft., leaving a shortfall of 38.516 TMC ft.

On verification with the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), it has been ascertained that during this water year of 2015-2016, the rainfall in the Cauvery catchment in Karnataka i.e. South Interior Karnataka has been normal and the IMD has indicated that there is only (-)1% deviation as on 9.9.2015. Therefore, your contention that this water year should be considered as a "distress year" is not correct and is contrary to the factual position. The Government of Karnataka, has therefore, to abide by the Final Order of Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal, dated 5.2.2007, which has the status of a decree of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, after its Notification by the Government of India on 19.2.2013.

The Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal has in its Final Order clearly defined that the irrigation season is from 1st June to 31st January of the next year. However, Karnataka has brazenly drawn water for its summer irrigation during the year 2014-2015, in contravention of the Final Order of the Tribunal. If only Karnataka had carried over the storage as on 31st January to 1st June, 2015, as mandated by the CWDT, there would not have been any difficulty for Karnataka to ensure the flows due to Tamil Nadu as prescribed in the Final Order of the Tribunal.

The contention of the Government of Karnataka that accounting of water at the end of the season in December by taking into consideration the ground realities in the entire Cauvery Basin in respect of the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal, during a distress year, has no relevance in the present context.

