



உலகத் தமிழ் அமைப்பு

World Tamil Organization, Inc.

(A Non-Profit Organization registered in USA, Established 1991)

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Dear and Respected Ms. J. Jayalalitha,
Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu,

Ever since the Koodankulam Atomic Power Project was started in 1988, people – particularly those living in the affected area – have been protesting against this project by voicing their genuine concerns by pointing to the catastrophic calamity that may fall on them and the dangers that may last for several decades. Nowadays, even the developed countries that are advanced in nuclear technology are debating whether to continue nuclear energy for the production of electric energy.

The Government of India had constituted a Task Force to review the Koodankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP) after the devastating nuclear tragedy in Fukushima in Japan. The Task Force had sought implementation of its 17 recommendations before commissioning units 1 and 2 of KKNPP. The important recommendations, among other things, related to the provision of alternative fresh water storage system and emergency pumping equipment are yet to be implemented in KKNPP to this day. More than 1 million people are living within the 30 km radius of the plant which far exceeds the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board's stipulations. It is impossible to evacuate so many people quickly and efficiently in case of a nuclear disaster at Koodankulam. If a natural disaster hits before the said measures are implemented or there is a terrorist attack or there is a malfunction in the reactor, large amount of radiation would spread which would cause an enormous area uninhabitable for decades to come and would require dislocation of millions of people.

People who are living in the potential danger zones where these nuclear energy installations are located have every right to show their protest in a democratic way. Any democratically elected government should take every step to convince them and allay their fears before moving forward with nuclear power stations in their vicinity, especially when the people use peaceful means to protest. We learn from all reasonably unbiased resources that these basic human rights have been denied by both the Government of India and the Government of Tamil Nadu.

World Tamil Organization requests the Govt. of Tamil Nadu and the Govt. of India to immediately stop the work at KKNP until firm safeguards are solidly established so that no danger will result to the people in the region.

The press reports indicate that the police have gone to the extent of damaging the boats and homes of the villagers. This is highly condemnable. The purpose of the police is to protect the people, not threaten them. We also request that all the police forces be removed forthwith from both Koodankulam and Idinthakarai villages. All the people must be compensated for the losses that they have suffered from.

Yours Sincerely,

Selvan Patchamuthu
President, World Tamil Organization

Cc: Prime Minister of India / Chairman & Managing Director of Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL)