

Report from T.N :

CPI(ML) Campaign on Cauvery waters

The Supreme Court finally gave its verdict on the dispute of sharing Cauvery river waters between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. It directed the Central Government to form a management board to implement its verdict. Over the decades the ruling classes have been spreading hatred and instigating regional sentiments so as to divide the people of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and prolong the dispute to gain their selfish political ends.

The BJP government is also employing the same policy. Instead of immediately forming the management board of Cauvery river waters, it is playing the card of discussions to resolve the issue. Seeing this attempt, the State unit of CPI(ML) took up a propaganda campaign in Kapisthalam, Thiruppananthal and Althur areas in Tanjavur district and Andimadam and T Palar areas in Ariyalur district. It distributed thousands of leaflets and conducted public meetings in the towns and villages demanding the central government:

-to immediately form the river management board for Cauvery with farmers representatives; to stop commercialization of irrigation water and create a permanent river co-ordination plan to solve all the river water disputes in the country.

And demanding the state government of Tamil Nadu:

-to restore around 40,000 tanks for irrigation; provide relief to distressed peasants due to scarcity of water and extend the public distribution system with more supply of foodgrains to the distressed farmers and agricultural labour.

It called upon the people Tamil Nadu and Karnataka not to fall prey to the divisive tactics and regional chauvinism being spread by the ruling classes and unite to ensure an equitable and timely distribution of irrigation waters for the peasants and against grabbing of water, rivers, land and other resources by the foreign and Indian big bourgeoisie.
