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Kerala;Flood

WAR OF WORDS OVER THANNEERMUKKOM BUND

 Even after such a major flood has taken place, Thanneermukkom bund, which is the major outlet for letting water into the sea, has not been opened yet. The bund's work was over during the previous UDF Government itself and not operating it is related to certain other factors. One is the breaking of the old mud structure. While people are fighting for survival in Kuttanad, the debate on whether the sand is owned by the contractor or panchayat is a cruelty to the public... The lives of the people of Kuttanad are more important than flimsy disputes and debates...

Ramesh Chennithala, Opposition leader

I have asked the Chief Minister's Office for the availability of the CM to inaugurate the bund in September-October. The fitting of 28 shutters has been completed, but the fixing of the automatic lock is not complete. There is no power connection for operating the automatic lock. So the allegations about the bund opening are baseless... The opening of the shutters did not result in flooding Kuttanad. The shutters of the first and second stages of the bund remain open and water is flowing smoothly. The government will amicably settle the dispute over the sand that will be removed from the mud bund

Mathew T Thomas, Water Resources Minister

