## Government of Odisha Revenue & D.M. Department

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No. 17450 /R&DM, Bhubaneswar, dated the 17th June, 2014. GE (GL)-5-63/13

From

Dr. Taradatt, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary.

To

All Revenue Divisional Commissioners,

All Collectors,

All Sub-Collectors,

All Tahasildars.

Sub: Clarification regarding classification of land in the RoR.

Sir,

I am directed to invite reference to the last paragraph of this Department's letter No.44019/R&DM, dated 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2013 on the aforementioned subject, wherein it was stated that "lands included within the list filed before the Hon'ble Apex Court may be treated as forest land and which are not included in the list may be treated as non-forest land".

2. The legal and constitutional provisions in regard to "forests" vis-a-vis the judgement rendered by the Hon'ble Apex Court in T.N. Godavarman Thirumulkpad Vrs. Union of India have been examined again in consultation with the legal experts, and as advised by them, the said paragraph is substituted as follows:

"In view of the affidavit filed by the State Government in WP(C) No.202/1995, lands included in the list filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court may be treated as forest land. If the lands are not covered under the said affidavit, but if in fact, they satisfy the description of "forest", the same shall be treated as forest".

Yours faithfully,

Additional Chief Secretary

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Memo No. 17457 /R&DM, Date.17.06.2014.

Copy forwarded to the Principal Secretary, Forest & Environment Department/ Principal Chief Conservator of Forest for information and necessary action.

Additional Chief Secretary