GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
REVENUE AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

No. RDM-LRA-EXINST-0009-2016 3877 /R&DM dated 3.2.2017

From
Shri Sashadhar Nayak OAS(S)
Joint Secretary to Government

To
All Collectors

Sub:- Allotment of Government land for homestead purpose under Vasundhara scheme in favour of transgenders.

Madam/Sir,

In inviting a reference to the above mentioned subject, I am directed to inform you that Government, after careful consideration, have been pleased to decide that on fulfilling all criteria as indicated in OGLS Rules, 1983, a transgender can be eligible to get the benefits of house site in rural areas under Vasundhara Scheme.

The Hon’ble Supreme Court, in judgment dated 15.04.2014 passed in W.P.(C) No.400/2012 and W.P.(C) No.604/2013 (filed by National Legal Services Authority -vrs Union of India and others) has decided that ‘transgender, apart from binary gender, be treated as ‘third gender’ for the purpose of safeguarding their rights under Part III of the Constitution and the laws made by the Parliament and the State Legislature. The Hon’ble Court have also decided that transgenders who are neither male/female fall within the expression of “person” appearing in Article 14 of the Constitution and are entitled to legal protection of laws in all spheres State activity including equal civil and citizenship rights, as enjoyed by any other citizen of this country. Further, the Apex Court has directed the Center and State Governments to frame various social and welfare schemes for the betterment of transgenders.

In this connection, this Department letter No.17959/R&DM dated 19.06.2015 on ‘enumeration of homesteadless families in the rural areas of the State’ may please be referred to.
You are, therefore, requested to look into the matter and ensure the allotment of homestead land in favour of a transgender subject to condition that the existing criteria for the purpose are satisfied.

Action taken in the matter is required to be intimated to this Department from time to time.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

Joint Secretary to Government

Memo No. 3878/RDM, Dated 3.1.2017

Copy forwarded to the Principal Secretary to Government, Department of Social Security & Empowerment of persons with disabilities for information and necessary action with reference to their UOI No.311 dated 8.9.2016.

[Signature]

Joint Secretary to Government

Memo No. 3879/RDM, Dated 3.1.2017

Copy forwarded to All RDCs/Secretary, Board of Revenue, Odisha, Cuttack for information and necessary action.

[Signature]

Joint Secretary to Government

Memo No. 3880/RDM, Dated 3.1.2017

Copy forwarded to Additional Secretary to Chief Minister for kind information of Hon’ble Chief Minister, Odisha.

[Signature]

Joint Secretary to Government

Memo No. 3881/RDM, Dated 3.1.2017

Copy forwarded to Private Secretary to the Minister, Revenue and Disaster Management for kind information of Hon’ble Minister, Revenue and Disaster Management.

[Signature]

Joint Secretary to Government

Copy forwarded to OSD to Chief Secretary for kind information of Chief Secretary.

Memo No. **3883**/RDM, Dated 3.1.2017

Copy forwarded to All Sub-Collectors/Tahasildars for information and necessary action.

Memo No. **3884**/RDM, Dated 3.1.2017

Copy forwarded to IMU Cell/LR & GE Branch for information and necessary action.

Memo No. **3885**/RDM, Dated 3.1.2017

Copy forwarded to Guard File, LR Branch, R & DM Department.

Joint Secretary to Government