## GOVERNMENT OF ORISSA REVENUE AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

No.GE(GL)-S-76/2010-43968/R&DM. Dtd. 24/10/201/

From

Shri R. K. Sharma, IAS Commissioner-cum- Secretary to Government

To

All Collectors

Sub: Government land recorded in non-forest kisam with a note of "Sabik Kisam Jungle" in the RoR finally published after 25.10.1980 but which was forest kisam in Sabik record – application of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Clarification regarding.

Madam/Sir,

There have been doubts about the applicability of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to the lands recorded as non-forest kisam in RoR published after 25.10.1980 but which carry an entry of 'Sabik kisam jungle' in the remarks column.

This matter has been examined in consultation with Forest & Environment Department and it is noted that section 2 of the Forest (Conservation)Act, 1980 restricts the dereservation of forests or use of forest land for non-forest purpose except with prior approval of Government of India, MoEF for such non-forest use.

Further, the Hon'ble Supreme Court, in their order Dt. 12.12.1996 passed in WP(C) No. 202/1995 have observed that

"....... The term 'forest land' occurring in section 2, will not only include 'forest' as understood in the dictionary sense, but also any area recorded as forest in the Government record irrespective of its ownership. This is how it has to be understood for the purpose of section 2 of the Act. The provisions enacted in the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for the conservation of forests, and the matters connected

therewith must apply clearly to all forests so understood irrespective of the ownership or classification thereof ......."

In consideration of this position, Government have been pleased to clarify that the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 would be applicable to any type of forest land including the land recorded as non-forest land in Hal records published after 25.10.1980 which was of "Jungle" kisam in its respective Sabik record as on 25.10.1980 irrespective of the fact that the said non-forest kisam land in Hal record does not find place in the District Level Committee Report which formed the basis for the affidavit filed by the State Government before the Apex Court.

You are, therefore, requested to take appropriate action in the matter accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

Commissioner-cum- Secretary to Government

Memo No. 43969 /R&D.M. dtd. 24/10/2011

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

Memo No. 43970 Commissioner-cum- Secretary to Government /R&D.M. dtd. 24/10/2011

Copy forwarded to Forest & Environment (Forest) Department/CMD, IDCO for information and necessary action.

Memo No. 4397/ Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government /R&D.M. dtd. 24/10/2011

Copy forwarded to OIC, IMU Cell/ LR&GE(A)/(B)/(C) Branch of Revenue & D.M. Department for information and necessary action.

Deputy Secretary to Government