

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
REVENUE AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

No. RDM-LRB-POLICY-0004-2021 6317 /R&DM dated 24 FEB 2022

From

Sri Amiya Kumar Sahoo, OAS(S)
Joint Secretary to Government

To

All Collectors

Sub:- Unauthorized conversion of agricultural land

Sir,

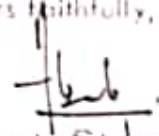
I am directed to say that in the recent Inspection Report on the Accounts of R&DM Department, it has been brought to notice of Government that a good number of plots are being utilized for non agricultural purpose without conversion under the OLR Act. As reported, in some of the test checked cases, it was ascertained that the Tahasildars are not verifying the physical status of neighbouring plots during conducting of field verification for conversion of a plot and allowing conversion mechanically on basis of RI report.

It may be noted that the authorized officer under OLR Act should make or cause an enquiry as per provisions U/r 12-A of OLR (General) Amendment Rules, 1997 before granting permission for conversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes. In this context a Department letter No. 38971/ R&DM dated 11.10.2006 has been issued wherein it was instructed that the authorized officer, while conducting enquiry in the field should also verify the physical status of neighbouring lands, inconvenience like water logging, drainage issues, etc, caused to the adjacent land owners by proposed conversion and initiate cases U/s 8(1)(C) of OLR Act against such neighbouring raiyats, if they have unauthorizedly converted agricultural land for non-agricultural purpose.

Further, Govt. have also issued instruction for eviction in case of sale of agricultural land through plotted housing schemes for non agricultural purpose without going through the due process of conversion under section 8-A of OLR Act, 1960.

I would, therefore, request you to kindly instruct all authorized officers to ensure and follow the instructions as stated above before granting permission for conversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes and take necessary steps for detection of unauthorized conversions under your jurisdiction.

Yours faithfully,


Joint Secretary to Government

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