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FOREST & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

The 12th January 2010

No. 969—10F (Cons)-117/2009-F.&E.—Whereas the Government in Steel & Mines Department have created certain post to be filled up through deputation in the State Level Enforcement Squad, constituted for prevention of illegal Mining and theft of minerals in the State vide their order No.4689-SM., dated the 22nd May 2007 and No. 5546-SM ., dated the 29th August 2009. Some Forest Range Officers have since been deputed to join the Squad;

Whereas the Government of Orissa have been considering empowerment of Forest Ranger Officers/ Foresters deputed to the State Level Enforcement Squad with Statewide jurisdiction for performing functions of the Forest Officers as defined at Section 2(f) of the Orissa Forest Act, 1972, so as to detect forest offences, seize the forest produce including minerals, illegally extracted or removed, arrest the offenders for violations of forest laws, etc.

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 2 (f)(ii) of the Orissa Forest Act, 1972, the State Government have been pleased to empower the Forest Ranger Officers, Foresters and other Forest Officers deputed to the State Level Enforcement Squad, so as to enable them to perform the functions of Forest Officer covering the entire State of Orissa in detection of forest offence, seizure of forest produce and minerals illegally removed including tools, etc. used in committing the offence, arresting forest offenders and conducting enquiry into forest offence including receiving and recording evidence in course of such enquiry. Details of the case record regarding the offence detected and the materials seized by the empowered Forest Officers of the State Level Enforcement Squad, shall be handed over to the local Forest Officer having jurisdiction for further necessary action, if required, as per law.

By order of the Governor

U. N. BEHERA

Principal Secretary to Government