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PUC is a letter dated 5.2.2020 of Deputy Secretary (Revenue), A&N Administration regarding offering of comment for awarding of contract for exploration of Petroleum in the blocks AN-OSHP-2018/1 and AN-OSHP-2018/2.

In this regard, the Secretary (Rev), A&N Administration has also convened a meeting on 10.2.2020 to discuss the said issue. Copy of the minutes of the meeting is placed at Flag-X

In view of the above, it is submitted that earlier also this Directorate has examined the issue and informed the Officer on Special Duty (E&F), A&N Administration regarding fall of tribal reserve areas in the map of Block AN-OSFP-2018/2 vide this office letter dated 20.8.2019 which may kindly be referred at Page 163/c

The areas indicated as C17, C18, C19 & C20 in the Block AN-OSFP-2018/2 for exploration work falls in the tribal reserve as per Notification Nos. 1059/2004/F. No. 1-752/2002-TW(PF) dated 15.9.2004. It is observed that part of the area may also falls in the sea ward side (1 Km from the high tide line on the western side of the South and Middle Andaman Islands from Constance Bay to Lewis Inlet Bay) which is a notified tribal reserve as per Notification No. 16/2013/F.No. 2009-TW/Vol-IV dated 17.1.2013.

As per Section 6 of the A&N (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956, no person other than a member of an aboriginal tribe shall, except with the previous sanction of the Chief Commissioner, acquire any interest in any land situated in a reserved area or in any product of, or crop raised on, such land, or shall, except under and in accordance with the terms and conditions of a licence granted by the Chief Commissioner, carry on any trade or business in any such area.

There does not seem to be any objection to grant permission for exploration of Petroleum in the Jarawa Tribal Reserve (either in landward side or seaward side) keeping in view the national interest, subject to the condition that prior approval of the Hon'ble LG under A&N (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956 will be required.

If approved, we may inform that the Deputy Secretary (Revenue), A&N Administration on the above lines.

AC (TW)

Director (TW) (vacant)

Secretary (TW)

Accepted

Received at
14/12/20

K. S. S.
14/12/2020

K
EO (TW)

14/12/20