



5RF-2/1, Unit-IX, Bhubaneswar-751022, Tel: 0674-3512840, Email: seiaaodisha@gmail,com (A statutory body constituted by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986)

File No. SEIAA-103/12-2023

Dated: 28 December 2023
Bhubaneswar

To

Sri Amresh Rath, RQP Bima Nagar, 1st Lane, Near Ambapua, Brahmapur, Dist-Ganjam

Sub: Debarment of Sri Amresh Rath, RQP/OD/076/2017 from submitting any reports, documents to SEIAA, Odisha for obtaining Environmental Clearance- reg.

WHEREAS, Government of India vide EIA Notification No. S.O. 1533 (E) dated the 14th September, 2006 of the erstwhile Ministry of Environment and Forests has constituted the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Odisha (hereinafter referred to as SEIAA, Odisha) as an Authority under the provisions of sub-section (3) of section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and

WHEREAS, Tahasildar, Kukudakhandi, (hereinafter referred to as Project Proponent in short) through RQP had applied for grant of Environmental Clearance to the project proposal for EC of Kusumi & Mohuda Stone Quarries Cluster over an area of 27.258 Acres or 11.139 hectares in village Kusumi & Mohuda, Tahasil Kukudakhandi in District Ganjam, State Odisha submitted under cluster approach with total cluster area 11.139 Hectares with consisting of 5 stone quarries, and

WHEREAS, the Authority observed that there are 7 quarries in cluster, out of which EC has been granted by SEIAA to 2 (two) quarries based on the wrong information submitted by PP through RQP that only two out of the seven quarries are coming in the cluster, and

WHEREAS, show cause notice has been issued to the RQP vide SEIAA dated 14th November, 2023 wherein it has been alleged that false information in regard to cluster for filing EC application and also in the preparation of cluster EIA/EMP with NABET consultant. EC was granted by SEIAA, Odisha based on the information furnished in the EC application, and

WHEREAS, the RQP has submitted response vide letter no.AR/JDG/MP/33/2023 dated 13.12.2023 to the show cause notice, stating, there was lack of clear guidance regarding the inclusion of existing cluster and your role is limited to providing assistance to the NABET consultant and to the Tahasildar. You have also stated that your role primarily involves preparation of mining plan and you do not have direct involvement in EC application.

WHEREAS, the matter was placed in the 148th meeting of SEIAA, Odisha held on 21.12.2023. The Authority perused the reply dated 13.12.2023 of Sri Amresh Rath, RQP/OD/076/2017 in response to the show cause notice dated 14.11.2023 of SEIAA, Odisha and concluded that the explanation furnished by the RQP stating lack of clear guidance and limited role of RQP, which is not acceptable. In fact, RQP must have a clear understanding of the guidelines and instructions issued under EIA Notification, 2006 and RQP cannot shift responsibility by stating that he does not have direct involvement in EC application filing / process.

WHEREAS, after detailed deliberation in the matter, the Authority decided that **Sri Amresh Rath**, **RQP/OD/076/2017 shall be debarred** from submitting any reports, documents to SEIAA, Odisha for obtaining Environmental Clearance in terms of provision of EIA Notification, 2006 for a period of Six Months from the date of issue.

Yours faithfully,

Member Secretary

Copy forwarded to

1. The Director of Mines, Steel & Mines Dept, Govt. of Odisha Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action.

2. The Director Minor Mineral, Steel & Mines Dept, Govt. of Odisha Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action.

3. The Secretary, State Expert Appraisal Committee, (SEAC), Odisha for information and necessary action.

Member Secretary