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**Field inspection report in context of according permission for survey and exploration of Uranium in Block – 1 (38 Sq. Km) and Block – 2 (38 Sq.Km) of Amrabad R.F. (around Amrabad and Udimilla villages Mahaboob Nagar District) of Achampet Division and Block – 3 (03 Sq Km) and Block – 4 (04 Sq. Km) of Nidugal R.F. (Near Narayanapur village, Nalgonda District) of N.Sagar WLM Division of Amrabad Tiger Reserve circle.**

**Block – 1 (38 Sq.Km) :-** This block covers the compartment No. 229/230/231/232/240-PART/241-PART/64/237/238/239/ of Macharam Beat (Amrabad R.F.) and is part of the buffer area on Amrabad tiger reserve. The Compartment nos 239/240-PART/and 241-PART fall in the Sanctuary core area. My observation of the area on site visit is that it is hilly undulating terrain with miscellaneous growth like Albizzia amara, Hardwicia binata, Dalbergia paniculata, ficus and other pole crop and thorny growth. The area is having fauna like Panther, Sloth bear, Wild dog and herbivores like Spotted deer, Sambar, Wild boar etc., Tiger also occasionally visits the area. Tiger presence has been confirmed in the areas from pugmark and cattle kill evidences. I have visited and inspected the area on 14/06/2016. There are no existing roads in the forest area to cover the entire 3800 Hac. It is difficult to transport boring machinery in to the area, but the user agency has not clearly spelt out as to how they are going to go inside the area. The area is huge but the agency has expressed its inability to give exact locations of bores due to technical reasons. In absence of the clear points where the bores are going to be dug, it is difficult to comprehend where or not any tree growth is going to be sacrificed, however the user agency has stated that no tree growth is going to be felled.

SITE PICTURES OF BLOCK NO 1 & 2 OF ACHAMPET WLM DIVISION



Block 2



View block 2



**Block – 2 (38 Sq.Km):-** This block covers the compartment No. 156/157/158/159/160/142/143 /86 covering Padra Beat and Maredupalli Beat of Amrabad Range (Amrabad R.F) which is located inside the Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary area which is the part of the Amrabad tiger reserve. I have visited and inspected the area on 14/06/2016. The tiger is occasionally seen in Nallavagu locality of Tirumalapur beat as reported by the local staff. Here also it is seen that the terrain is hilly, undulating and lacks approach roads into the forests. It is difficult to take the machinery into the area, but the agency has not clearly spelt out as to how they are going to transport the machinery in the forest for boring purpose. The area is huge but the agency has expressed its inability to give exact locations of bores due to technical reasons. In absence of the clear points where the bores are going to be dug, it is difficult to comprehend where or not any tree growth is going to be sacrificed, however the user agency has stated that no tree growth is going to be felled.

**Block – 3 (03 Sq.Km) :** - This block falls in compartment No. 116 of Kambalapalli Beat of Devarakonda Range (Nidugal R.F) which is located inside the Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary area. This area has been inspected by me on 16.05.2016. The area is basically hilly undulating there is very good growth of *Chloroxylon swietenia* with other species like *Holoptelia* etc.,

In this case also the agency has expressed its inability to give exact locations of bores due to technical reasons. In absence of the clear points where the bores are going to be dug, it is difficult to comprehend where



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Or not any tree growth is going to be sacrificed, however the user agency has stated that no tree growth is going to be felled.

**Block – 4 (03 Sq.Km) :-** This block covers the compartment No. 117 of Kambalapalli Beat of Devera Konda Range (Nidugal R.F) which is located inside the Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary CORE area. The recent census exercise has shown good presence of wild life in the area.

PICTURES OF WILD ANIMALS CAPTURED IN CAMERA TRAPS OF BLOCK 3  
and 4 OF NAGARJUN SAGAR DIVISION



The above 4 blocks, which are proposed for survey and exploration of Uranium fall in the Amrabad tiger Reserve which is one of the biggest Tiger Reserve in the country with rich biodiversity. The flora and fauna will be adversely affected and a lot of disturbance will be caused for wildlife if exploration takes place. This will also cause fragmentation and add to the disturbance to the Tiger Reserve. Further, as per Wildlife Protection Amendment Act 2006 (No. 39 of 2006), Vide 38V 5(g) which mandates that the protected area or tiger reserve are not diverted for ecologically unsustainable uses, except in public interest and with the approval of the National Board for Wildlife and on the advice of the Tiger Conservation authority. Further, the provision 14 of Article – II of Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Environment and Forests (National Tiger Conservation Authority), Government of Telangana and Field Director, Amrabad Tiger Reserve may kindly be perused, which indicates that the State Government shall certify that no ecologically unsustainable land use such as mining, industry and similar projects operate within the Tiger Reserve.

The environmental impact of mining will include erosion, formation of sinkholes, loss of biodiversity, and contamination of soil, groundwater and surface water by chemicals from mining processes. Besides creating environmental damage, the contamination resulting from leakage of chemicals also will affect the health of the native wildlife. Erosion of mine dumps, and resultant siltation of drainages, creeks will significantly impact the surrounding areas. In these areas of wilderness mining may cause destruction and disturbance of ecosystems and habitat fragmentation.

It is observed that the user agency is proposing digging of around 4000 bores for exploration. To drill bores they will be using machines. The terrain is mostly hilly, undulating and no existing roads are there. The user agency has claimed that the tree felling will not be there, but in my opinion the user agency will disturb the existing vegetation in order to take inside the machinery for boring purpose. The vegetation is quite thick in the block 1 and 2 of Achampet division. The disturbance to the habitat will be immense even for exploration purpose.

The user agency has not spelt out the exact location of the bores, thereby making it difficult to appreciate that no trees will be sacrificed in the process. When the agency has been requested to furnish the exact location, it has replied that such location cannot be demarcated.

In view of the above, the permission to the Block - 1 and 2 proposed in Achampet Forest Division in Amrabad R.F may **not** be recommended as mostly Block - 1 is part of the Sanctuary and only some part is in the buffer of the sanctuary whereas Block 2 is in Sanctuary. The area is the core habitat of the tiger and the tiger movement till the month of June 2016 has been seen in the block 2 area.

Regarding Blocks - 3 and 4 which falls in Nagarjunasagar Division in Nidugul R.F it is submitted that the area falls on the northern boundary of Dindi River. The Dindi River separates Achampet Division and Nagarjunasagar Division. The area is basically with red loamy soil with boulders. Fauna like Neelgai, Wild boar, Sambar, Spotted deer, Sloth bear, Peacock and Panther are reported from the area. Latest camera traps have captured the pictures of leopards in the adjoining areas and the compt 116 of kambalpali beat. The NTCA and the state wildlife ATR authorities are working hard to bring back tiger in the area as it is abutting to the Amrabad range of Achampet division where once upon a time tiger presence was there. If the mining activity is permitted, it will cause habitat fragmentation and disturbance to wild life, resulting in wastage of all out efforts made over the years to restore wildlife and improve habitat in the core area.

  
Field Director,  
Amrabad Tiger reserve Circle,