



भारत सरकार  
Government of India  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change  
एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, गुवाहाटी/Integrated Regional office, Guwahati  
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F.No.3 AS A001/2021-GHY

10th February, 2021

सेवा मे,

अतिरिक्त निदेशक सामान्य(FC)/Additional Director General(FC)

भारत सरकार/Govt of India

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय/Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

जे -524, जल विंग, इंदिरा पर्यावरण भवन/ J-524, Jal Wing, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan

जोरबाग रोड, अलीगंज, /Jorbagh Road, Aliganj,

नई दिल्ली / New Delhi – 110 003.

Sub:- Proposal of diversion of 238 ha for relocation of forest village Laika in Paharpur Reserve Forest and Namphai Reserve Forest under Digboi Forest Division, Tinsukia District, Assam.

Ref:- Letter File No-8-01/2021-FC dated 1.02.2021 of Govt of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi.

Sir,

With reference to the subject and letter cited above, I am to inform that the site inspection of the proposal mentioned under subject above has been conducted by this Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati on 10.02.2021 as requested by Ministry vide letter under reference above and the site inspection report of the same is enclosed herewith for kind information further necessary action.

Encl: As stated above.

भवदीय,

(W. Longvah)

वन महानिरीक्षक (केंद्रीय)

Inspector General of Forests(C)

## **SITE INSPECTION REPORT**

**Diversion of 238 hectare of forest land for relocation of the forest village Laika in Paharpur Reserved Forest and Namphai Reserve Forest under Digboi Division in Tinsukia District, Assam.**

### **BACKGROUND OF THE PROPOSAL**

The proposal for diversion of 238 hectare of forest land in Tinsukia district of Assam for relocation of the forest village Laika to Paharpur Reserved Forest and Namphai Reserve Forest under Digboi Division submitted by the State Government of Assam vide its letter No. FRS.4/2021/26 dated 27.01.2021 was received in the Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati on 03.02.2021. As per the provision of the F(C) Act, 1980 and Ministry's letter File No.8-01/2021-FC dated 01.02.2021, the site inspection of this instant proposal was conducted by Inspector General of Forest(C) and Research Officer of this Integrated Regional office, Guwahati during 09.02.2021 and 10.02.2021 along with the following officials of the State Forest Department and representatives of User Agency:-

- (i) Dr. C. Muthukumaravel, CCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Govt of Assam.
- (ii) Shri Rajendra Singh Bharti, DFO(WL), Tinsukia Forest Division, Govt of Assam.
- (iii) Shri T.C. Ranjit Ram, DFO, Digboi Forest Division, Govt of Assam

The total of 373 ha of forest land is required for relocation from the core area of the Dibru-Saikhowa Park in two batches namely (i) Dodhia forest villages to Lakhimpur Forest Division, Pabha RF, Harmuty Forest Range (an area of 135 ha) and (ii) Laika forest village to Digboi FD, Namphai RF in Jagun Forest Range (238 ha). The Dibru -Saikhowa National Park's boundary is 340 Km<sup>2</sup> and notified Buffer Boundary is 765 Km<sup>2</sup> and Eco Sensitive Zone is near about 652.251 Km<sup>2</sup>.

The inspected proposal is for diversion of 238 ha of forest land for relocation of the forest village Laika in Paharpur Reserved Forest and Namphai Reserve Forest under Digboi Division in Tinsukia district, Assam.

**I. The Legal Status of the forests land proposed for diversion and number of families /population involved:**

543	2843	Area involved (ha)	Legal status	No. of families involved	No. of Population involved
Tinsukia	Digboi	238	166 ha in Paharpur RF and 72 ha in Namphai	543	2843

**II. The details of the village to be resettled.**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Village Laika
1	No. of family	543 Nos
2	No of Persons	2843 Nos
3	No of original land holder families	75
4	No. of landless families	-
5	No of cattle	5436
6	Facilities available	
a	Primary School	1. Laika L.P. School Creation:1956 2.Laika Pamua L.P. School Creation :1964 3.Laika Rigbe L.P. School Creation:1955 4.Laika M.E. School Creation :1965
b	Drinking water well	NIL
c	Bore Well	NIL
d	Dispensary	1 No, established during 1964 but not functioning at present.
e	Samaj Mandir	NIL
f	Cremation Ground	NIL
g	Anganwadi	3 Nos.
h	Electricity supply	NIL

**III. Whether proposal involved any construction of buildings(including residential) or not. If yes details thereof.**

No information on construction of building submitted for the time being.

**IV. Total cost of the Project at present rates.**

The total cost of the project is Rs 1000 lacs.

**V. Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view or not.**

The area proposed for the relocation of the Liaka village is not important from Wildlife point of view.

## VI. Vegetation

Total numbers of trees to be felled ( as per the enumeration list) in

Sl. No.	Name of RF involved	Scientific Names	Local Names	Girth-wise (in cm) trees to be felled						Total Nos. of trees to be felled
				0-30	31-60	61-90	91-120	121-150	(> 150)	
1	Paharpur	Misc. Sp.	Belkhor Semul	150	120	100	80	50	30	530
2	Namphai	Misc. Sp.	Ficus, Owtenga	10	20	302	20	15	10	150
Total										680

Effect of removal of trees on the general ecosystem in the area

No significance adverse effect on the general forest eco system is anticipated due to this felling and there is no important species present in the proposed area. Tree species present are Semul, Ficus, Owtenga etc.

(i)The proposed area in Paharpur RF(166ha) has mostly encroached by tea garden as such no important tree species are present in the proposed site.

(ii)Some standing trees sp. like *Bombax Ceiba* (Simul), *Dillenia sp* (Owtenga) could be seen in the proposed Namphai RF (72 ha), however DFO has ensured that minimum trees will be felled.

## VII. Background note on the proposal

As given in the first paragraph.

## VIII. Compensatory Afforestation:

Not proposed for this proposal as it is for relocation of the village forest from National Park to Reserve Forest as per the Nodal Officer(FCA), Govt of Assam.

## IX. Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or not. If yes a report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials.

The proposed area of 166 ha in Paharpur RF area has mostly encroached by tea gardens and has shades trees for tea garden. Whereas area of 72 ha proposed in Namphai RF, forest is degraded and some enchroacher illegally cultivated some portion of the area. The area has few trees and there are no permanent household.

## X. Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Govt or not.

Rehabilitation & Resettlement Plan is under preparation and will be submitting to the Ministry Govt shortly.

## XI. Wildlife Managements Plan for the land vacated by the Laika village by CWLW in Dibhru Saikhowa National park.

-Not prepared for the time being, however informed by the DFO that it will be submitted at the earliest to the Ministry.



**XII. Cost Benefit ratio.**

Not Applicable.

**XIII. Recommendation of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/State Govt.**

The proposal has been recommended at all levels by the Govt of Assam.

**XIV. Recommendation of Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati, along with detailed reasons.**

As informed by DFO(WL) Tinsukia Division, the number of families to be relocated in Paharpur RF is 378 nos and in Namphai RF is 160 families. A perennial river name Namchik River is adjacent to the proposed Namphai RF.

The proposal is recommended for consideration by the FAC subject to the following:

- (i) The State Govt should ensure that the land for resettlement is free from any dispute.
- (ii) The proposed area is declared as part of Elephant Reserve by Assam Govt Gazette Extraordinary notification dated 17.04.2003, therefore comment of CWLW is necessary regarding the proposed area.

**XV. Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati shall give detailed comments on whether there are any alternatives examined for locating the proposal in non-forest land.**

The Revenue Department has submitted a certificate mentioning that presently no available Revenue land to the tune of 238 ha for settlement of 543 families (2843 population) of Laika Forest Village of Dibru Saikhowa National Park in Tinsukia District.

**XVI. Utility of the proposal.**

This is the proposal for diversion of 238 ha of forest land for relocation of the forest village Laika in Paharpur Reserved Forest and Namphai Reserve Forest under Digboi Division in Tinsukia district, Assam.

The relocation of the Laika village will free Dibru-Saikhowa National Park from the anthropogenic pressure and further improve the flora and fauna habitat in future.

**XVII. Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/religious value.**

The land being diverted is reported to have no socio-cultural/religious value.

**XVIII. Whether any scared grove or vey old growth trees/forests exists in the area proposed for diversion.**

No such sacred grove or vey old growth trees/forests were reported.

**XIX. Whether the land under diversion forms part of unique eco-system.**

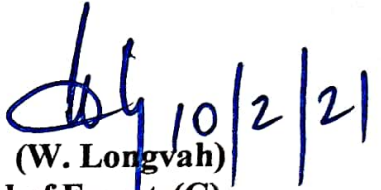
The proposed area is declared as part of Elephant Reserve by Assam Govt Gazette Extraordinary notification dated 17.04.2003.

**XX. Situation of Protected Area:-**

- (i) The aerial distance of the proposed area in Paharpur RF from from Dihing Patkai National Park is 23.7 km.
- (ii) The aerial distance of the proposed area in Namphai RF from Dihing Patkai National Park is 32.8 km.

**XXI. Any other information relating to the proposal.**

Photograph of the portion of the diversion area are enclosed.

  
(W. Longvah)  
**Inspector General of Forests(C)**  
**MoEF&CC,**  
**Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati**

**Photographs of forest area proposed in Paharpur RF:-**



**(i)Photo showing the encroach tea garden.**

**Photographs of forest area proposed in Namphai RF:-**



**(i)Photo showing the Namchik River and proposed area in Namphai RF.**