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पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS

पर्यावरण भवन, सी० जी० ओ० कॉम्प्लेक्स

PARYAVARAN BHAWAN, C.G.O. COMPLEX

लोदी रोड, नई दिल्ली-110003

LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI-110003

No. J-22016/17/94-BR

July 28, 1997

To

The Chief Secretary,
Government of Assam,
Dispur, Guwahati

Subject: Establishment of Biosphere Reserve in Dibru Saikhowa in Assam.

Sir,

A project document for designating Dibru Saikhowa area as a biosphere reserve (BR) was prepared by the State Government of Assam. Having considered the project document in accordance with the guidelines issued by Government of India in this regard, Government of India has decided to designate the proposed Dibru Saikhowa area as a BR.

2. The BR will be deemed to have come into being with effect from the date of issue of this notification.

3. The total area of the BR is 765 sq km. Out of this an area of 340 sq km forming Dibru Saikhowa wildlife sanctuary and 425 sq km around this sanctuary will comprise the core and buffer zones respectively. The details of the area to be earmarked for manipulation activities such as forestry, agriculture, ecorestoration, agroforestry etc. will be worked out by the project authorities. The details of the boundary and zonation are given in Annexure - I.

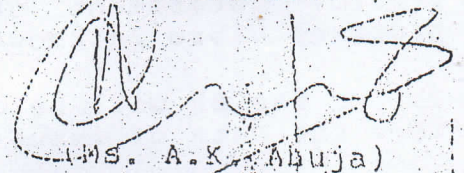
4. The following will be important aspects of the Dibru Saikhowa BR.

(a) The core and buffer zone and manipulation activities which may be permitted in the buffer zone will be in conformity with general guidelines for management of biosphere reserves.

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- (b) The core zone of the BR will be kept absolute undisturbed.
- (c) The constitution of the BR by itself will neither in any way change the status of legal ownership of land and forests nor affect the rights of tribals and local people in any way.
- (d) State Government will constitute a Biosphere Reserve Management Council at the state level in accordance with the guidelines for ensuring scientific management of the BR.
- (e) Government of India will provide financial assistance for approved items of expenditure included in the Management Action Plan to be prepared by the Government of Assam.
- (f) The Government of Assam will set up a local committee for coordination of the activities of the various departments in the BR area.
- (g) The Government of Assam will nominate an officer as Director of the BR. He/She may be an existing functionary who may not necessarily be an exclusive functionary for this purpose.

Yours faithfully,



(Ms. A.K. Ahuja)

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India

New Delhi
Date: 28.7.1997

Encl.: As stated

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Planning Commission
2. Chief(Science), Planning Commission
3. Secretary, Department of Forests, Govt. of Assam, Guwahati.
4. Secretary, Department of Environment, Govt. of Assam, Guwahati.
5. Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Assam, Guwahati.
6. Chief Wildlife Warden, Govt. of Assam, Guwahati.



(Dr. R.K. Rai)
Joint Director

7/10

Annexure-1

Constitution - Dibru Saikhowa Biosphere Reserve

General description and the boundary:

The Dibru Saikhowa Biosphere Reserve will cover an area of 765 Sq. Km. Northern high bank of the river Brahmaputra constitutes northern boundary. From Bangonitoha village near the old A.T. road, towards east then along the A.T. Road upto Gunjan Bazar, then through Guijan - Natuagan P.W.D. road upto Koliapani and along the P.W.D. road upto Dimaitharng beat and through Kalita Ajikha, Kailashpur villages upto Hatignuli gaon and upto the Brahmaputra dyke constitutes southern boundary. The river Lohit and streams of Kundil and Noa-Dihing rivers constitutes the eastern boundary and perpendicular line along the western boundary of the Dibru-Saikhowa Wildlife Sanctuary upto the Dibrugarh-Guijan P.W.D. road constitutes western boundary. The area lies between the longitudes $95^{\circ} 10$ minutes (E) to $95^{\circ} 40$ minutes (E) and latitudes $27^{\circ} 45$ minutes (N) to $27^{\circ} 30$ minutes (N).

Constitution: Core Zone: The Dibru Saikhowa Biosphere Reserve will have a core zone of 340 sq. km. i.e. the existing Dibru Saikhowa Wildlife Sanctuary.

Buffer Zone: The remaining area of 425 sq. km. will serve as buffer zone of Biosphere Reserve.