Site Inspection Report

Visited proposed extension area of Rupshi Airport along with DFO, Parbatjhora Forest Division, Airport personnel and staff of the Division on 12th August, 2025. While visiting runway it was observed that some water birds and kites were flying over which could be due to its proximity to Sareswar beel. But this may be a possible threat to the flights which the Airport authority needs to take care of. It was also observed that more than about 6000 trees are to be felled for the project, majority being Sal trees. However due to strategic importance of the airport which is about 20 to 30 km from International border, the development of it may be a necessity. While moving around the periphery of the proposed extension area it was noticed that a portion of about 220 meter of a PWD pucca road of about 6 meter width is passing through the project area which involves forest land. The road is used frequently by the people. Hence if the project is started this needs to be diverted to a proper alignment so that people do not suffer. Secondly if the new road involves any forest land, then a separate proposal for Forest Clearance needs to be applied for again by the Airport Authority through the Parivesh 2.0 portal of MoEF&CC.

(Suman Mohapatra, IFS) Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests cum CHD Bodoland Territorial Council, Kokrajhar