

RECOMMENDATION OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER
(FOR THE FOREST LAND PROPOSED FOR DIVERSION UNDER FC ACT)

Project: Diversion of forest land for Improvement and upgradation of Ghagarabasti to Hawajan Road under Asom Mala in the State of Assam

Forest Area Proposed for Diversion under Sonitpur East Division: 44.78 ha

A proposal (Ref. No. FP/AS/Others/150085/2021) has been received by this office from the APWRD for diversion of 44.78 ha of forest land for non-forestry purpose under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980. The proposal has been received in Sonitpur East Division through online mode of MoEF&CC PARIVESH portal on 17/12/2022. The project envisaged the use of forest land for Improvement and Upgradation of road from Ghagarabasti to Hawajan. An inspection has been carried out by the undersigned on 16/01/2023 as per the guidelines of FC Act.

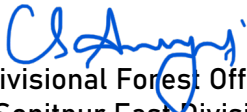
Upon inspection of the site, it was found that the proposed forest land required by the user agency falls under Gohpur Reserve Forest. The requirement of forest land proposed by the user agency is unavoidable for the project.

The salient features of the forest area proposed for diversion as found during site inspection are as follows:

- There are no known rare/ endangered species of flora or fauna present in the forest area proposed for diversion.
- There are no protected archeological/ heritage sites located in the proposed forest area.
- There are no plantation raised by this division in the forest area proposed for diversion.
- The proposed area is devoid of dense tree cover and the entire area is under human habitation.
- The user agency has not violated any provision of FC Act and no work has been started in the proposed area without the necessary clearance.

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL

The improvement and upgradation of Ghagarabasti to Hawajan is aimed at improvement of connectivity to Biswanath District and Lakhimpur District of Assam and Donyi Polo Airport in Arunachal Pradesh. It is an important road connecting various forest villages and FRA villages such as Sonapur, Daimalu, alupara, Simaluguri etc. Therefore, in order to provide connectivity for Donyi Polo Airport and to provide basic road infrastructure to forest villagers and forest rights holders, the diversion of the forest land which is barest minimum required as above is recommended for acceptance.


Divisional Forest Officer
Sonitpur East Division
Biswanath Chariali