INSPECTION NOTE ON THE PROPOSAL FOR DIVERSION OF 4.86 ha. OF FOREST LAND FOR ROAD WIDENING BY PWD NHAI ALONG JOWAI-RATACHERRA ROAD IN JAIÑTIA HILLS DISTRICT, MEGHALAYA

The inspection was carried out in the field on **Thursday** the **11th June, 2015** along with the Range Forest Officer, Umkiang Range, and representatives of PWD NHAI.

The proposed project is an existing National Highway that passes along the souht western boundary of the Narpuh Wildlife Sanctuary and through the Narpuh Reserve Forest, Block-II. The project proponent has proposed no linear diversion on Sanctuary & Reserve Forest area, only the improvement works of the existing right of way will be done. Only the unclassed Forests under deemed Private Forest land within the control and management of the Jaiñtia Hills Autonomous District Council with at area of 4.869ha requires forest clearance.

As part of compensatory afforestation, an area of 9.738 ha. was proposed by the user Agency at Saipung Reserve Forest a degraded forest land. The area was also inspected by the DFO, Jaintia Hills (T) Division, Jowai. According to his report the land is a degraded forest area fit for compensatory afforestation.

The diversion of the forest land is recommended, and may be approved.

Conservator of Forests (T) Khasi & Jaiñtia Hills Meghalaya, Shillong