## INSPECTION NOTE ON THE PROPOSAL FOR DIVERSION OF 0.07 ha. OF FOREST LAND AT LAITKOR PROTECTED FOREST, EAST KHASI HILLS DISTRICT, MEGHALAYA FOR CONSTRUCTION OF COMMUNITY HALL BY DORBAR SHNONG LUMPYNGNGAD

The inspection was carried out in the field on **Thursday** the **9**<sup>th</sup> **February**, **2017** along with the Range Forest Officer, Territorial Southern Range, Shillong.

The location of the area is at Lumparing, East Khasi Hills District under the Khasi Hills Territorial Division, Shillong. The area is under Laitkor Protected Forest, Compartment No-1.

Though the area is blank, the area is suitable for construction of Staff quarter/office, otherwise in future if we need land for construction of infrastructures, we may have to utilise the forest area. The protected forest around Shillong acts as the green lungs and if trees are planted in this area greenery can still be restored. Moreover, if the diversion is allowed, this will set a precedent to all the other villages and communities residing around the Protected & Reserve Forest in Shillong who may come forward for more diversion of forest land. This will lead to reduction in forest area and greenery of Shillong as a whole.

During inspection, it was seen that in the area is blank but the same can still be utilized for infrastructure like sub-beat office, quarter etc. or if the area is planted by trees, greenery will be restored.

The diversion of the forest land is 'not recommended'.

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