



GOVT. OF ASSAM
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER
SONITPUR EAST DIVISION, BISWANATH CHARIALI:784176

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Letter No. FSET/A/Asom Mala/2025/ 3069

Date: 20/01/2026

To,

The Chief Conservator of Forest
Northern Assam Circle,
Tezpur.

Sub: Forest Diversion proposal 44.78 ha for improvement and upgradation of Ghogorabasti to Howajan road under Asom Mala in the State of Assam in Gohpur Reserve Forest under Sonitpur East Division, Biswanath Chariali.

Ref: Your Office letter No.FNAC.27/Diversion/Gohpur RF/44.78 Ha/S.East/10630-34, dtd-07/02/2023.

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, I have the honour to inform you that the proposal for the diversion of forest land for the improvement and upgradation of the Ghogorabasti-Howajan road (under Asom Mala) has been revised. The required area within the Gohpur Reserve Forest has been reduced from 44.78 ha to 23.4461 ha. Accordingly, the number of trees marked for felling has also decreased from 3,832 to 832.

The user agency has cited that the project is essential from various aspects as follows-

- The proposed project road A28 Ghagrabasti to Hawajan connects NH-415 (Ghagrabasti) with NH 15 (Hawajan). The design length of the project Road is 17.430 Km. The road improvement will provide better connectivity to the states of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.
- The project road will also provide connectivity to Biswanath District, Lakhimpur District of Assam and Hollongi Airport in Arunachal Pradesh. It is an important road corridor connecting places namely Ghagrabasti, Sonapur, Daimalu, Alupara, Simaluguri, Khalihamari, Sesamiri, and Hawajan.
- The suggested existing interstate boundary road of Assam Arunachal Pradesh Border connecting the existing road is coming under Arunachal Pradesh State. This road is basically for the border movement and sensitive area road. It has limited access to the various villages which are coming under the consideration of alignment of proposed road in Asom Mala project. The suggested road has limited access to the people who are travelling from the Lakhimpur District. For better and faster connectivity to Hollongi Airport, NH-415 (Ghagrabasti) with NH 15 (Hawajan) for passenger's and goods movement taking place from Biswanath and Lakhimpur districts the proposed Asom Mala project road will play a key role.
- The villages are going to be benefited from the proposed Asom Mala project road are Ghagra Basti, Nalbari, N. C. Sonapur, Pub Ghagra, M. Sonapur, Barhampur, N. Sonapur, Thisaguri, Sonapur, Naranguri, Outar Rangajan, Sumarijan, 1. No. Kakila Thouribari, 2. No. Kakila Thouribari, 2. No. Bijoypur, Banar Gaon, 1. No. Gorbhaga, Amaguri, Alaripur, Salbari, Digambori, Doimalu, Doimaluguri, Dimapur, Alupara, 2. No. Bikrampur, etc. for their day to day's activities like access to market, education, health, job, etc. purposes.
- It envisages better transportation, connectivity, benefits to road users, and socio-economic benefits. The major benefits of the project are improvement in the condition of the road, road user comfort and less vehicle operating cost, reduction in travel time, and better interstate and intrastate connectivity.
- Therefore, the proposed alignment under Asom Mala Project is beneficial from the Connectivity, Economic, Social, Educational, Developmental and Accessibility per say.

This is for your favour of kind information and necessary action

Yours Faithfully,


Divisional Forest Officer
Sonitpur East Division
Biswanath Chariali



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: 23.4461 ha.

A proposal (Ref. No. FP/AS/ROAD/80294/2020) has been received by this office from the APWRD for diversion of 23.4461 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 25/09/2025. 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 19/01/2026 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 is 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 bare minimum required as above is recommended for acceptance.


Divisional Forest Officer
Sonitpur East Division
Biswanath Chariali