

## NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA

ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 168 / 2023 /EZ

(Dilip Nath -Versus- The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and Others)

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Filed by:


  
Santanu Bora, Advocate

E mail: advocatesbora@gmail.com

Ph. No. 9864176825

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA

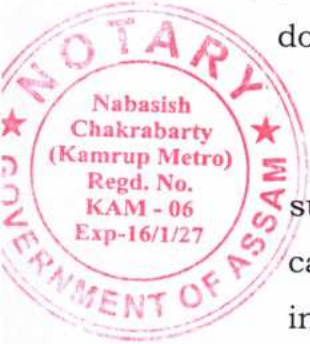
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Chief Secretary to  
Govt. of Assam  
Rajesh - Joint Secretary  
S.C., Govt of Assam  
Ravi Kota  
Chief Secretary  
Govt. of Assam

Original Application No. 168/2023/EZ

*Dilip Nath -vs- The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and Others*

Affidavit on behalf of the Chief Secretary, State of Assam

I Shri Ravi Kota, son of Late Shri Kota Appoji, aged about 58 years, presently residing at: Senior Officers' Colony, Khanapara, Guwahati, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:



1. That I am the Chief Secretary to the State of Assam, and as such I am well conversant with the facts and circumstances of the case, as well as with the daily orders passed by the Hon'ble Tribunal in the present case.

2. That Pursuant to the order dated 02.05.2024 passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Eastern Zone Bench, Kolkata, in OA No. 168/2023/EZ, whereby, the Chief Secretary, Government of Assam, has been directed to file personal affidavit within four weeks fixing responsibility with regard to the unauthorised constructions/encroachments made within the Charduar Reserved Forest and Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. Be it mentioned that the said directions have been stated in paragraph 10 of the order dated 02.05.2024. Furthermore, by the said order the Chief Secretary is also instructed to identify the officer(s) responsible for permitting such extensive constructions within the Reserved Forest, which occurred in gross violation of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

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NABASISH CHAKRABARTY  
NOTARY Govt. of Assam  
Regd. No. KAM - 06  
Lazer Guwahati - 781001

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3. Secondly, vide para 11 of the order of the Hon'ble Tribunal, the Chief Secretary was also directed that his affidavit must also explain the inaction of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, who permitted such illegal activities to go on since 2017.

In this regard, the answering respondent begs to submit that the answering respondent had filed an affidavit in the Hon'ble Tribunal on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2024 seeking 30 days' time to examine the matter, and hence this affidavit.

4. At the outset, the answering respondent states that before going into the specific points, it is necessary to offer a clearer perspective on this complex issue to explain the matter related to alleged illegal activities within the Reserve Forests and Wildlife Sanctuary areas since 2017 as mentioned in the order dated 02.05.2024 of the Hon'ble Tribunal, and hence the answering respondents begs to provide background facts and circumstances of the case in brief. This is as follows:

(i) Charduar Reserved Forest (RF) was constituted with an area of 24072 ha in 1878 vide Assam Gazette Notification No.5 of 17.10.1878. The area of Charduar RF was subsequently expanded through additional notifications. To the east of Charduar RF lies Balipara RF, with an area of 18,976.18 ha, notified vide Assam Gazette Notification No.5 of 17.10.1878. Further east lies Naduar RF, covering an area of 28140.91 ha and notified by Assam Gazette Notification No.5 of 17.10.1878.

(ii) Vide Notification No FRW.34/84 dated 06.09.1985, a part of Naduar RF, surrounded on the east by Bor-Dikorai River and

Ranjana Kataria  
Chief Secretary  
Govt. of Assam



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on the west by Jia Bhoroli River, was constituted into Nameri Wildlife Sanctuary (WLS) in 1985, which was subsequently upgraded to a National Park (NP) in the year 1998 vide Notification No. FRW-II/96/81 dated 13.08.1998. Nameri National Park was later upgraded to a Tiger Reserve in the year 2000, vide Government of Assam Notification No F.No.FRW-95/99/70 dated 01.03.2000.

(iii) That vide Government of Assam Notification No 172 dated 12.10.1998, a Part of Charduar RF, bordered by the Dolsiri Nala and Gabharu River to the east and the Pachnoi River to the west, covering an area of 220 sq km, was constituted into Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary (WLS) in the year 1998. Be it mentioned that both Nameri NP and Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary share their northern boundary with the interstate boundary of Arunachal Pradesh.

(iv) Be it mentioned that the forests of Charduar RF and Naduar RF are primarily semi-evergreen, with evergreen patches near rivulets and streams, along with areas of grassland. In total, 14 Forest Villages covering an area of 1,988.87 hectares were established in Charduar and Balipara RFs during 1950 to 1971.

(v) However, parts of Balipara RF consisting of large Sal patches, representing the northeastern most natural distribution of Sal, parts of Charduar, and Naduar RFs experienced encroachment prior to 1985, as can be observed from Google Earth satellite images. The encroachment status of different RFs as of 1985 is given in the following table:

*Dr. Keta*  
Chief Secretary  
Govt. of Assam



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Table 1: Status of encroachment in 1985

Sl. No	Name of Reserved Forest/Protected Area	Total Area (in Ha)	Area encroached (in Ha) approx.	Remarks
1.	Charduar Reserved Forest	46072.00	7575.00	
2.	Balipara Reserved Forest	18972.00	8090.00	
3.	Nameri Wildlife Sanctuary	20000.00	Nil	Carved from Naduar RF
4.	Naduar Reserved Forest	8141.00	1190.00	Remaining parts of Naduar RF
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>93,184.00</b>	<b>16855.00</b>	

Satellite imagery from the year 1985 has been annexed and marked as **Annexure 1**.

vi) The encroachments gradually increased from 1985 to 2005 in the forest. By 2005, large areas of these forests were encroached. The trend continued till 2010. The pace of encroachment decreased thereafter. The status of encroachment RF-wise as of 2005, 2010, 2017 and 2024 is given below:

Table 2: Status of encroachment in 2005

Sl. No	Name of Reserved Forest/Protected Area	Total Area (in Ha)	Area encroached (in Ha) approx.
1.	Charduar Reserved Forest	24072.00	21000.00
2.	Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary	22000.00	8500.00
3.	Balipara Reserved Forest	18972.00	10000.00
4.	Nameri National Park	20000.00	500.00
5.	Naduar Reserved Forest	8141.00	8000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>93,184.00</b>	<b>48,000.00</b>

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*Govt. of Assam*  
 Chief Secretary  
 Govt. of Assam



Table 3: Status of encroachment in 2010

Sl. No	Name of Reserved Forest/Protected Area	Total Area (in Ha)	Area encroached (in Ha) approx.
1.	Charduar Reserved Forest	24072.00	21000.00
2.	Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary	22000.00	10000.00
3.	Balipara Reserved Forest	18972.00	10000.00
4.	Nameri National Park	20000.00	500.00
5.	Naduar Reserved Forest	8141.00	8040.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>93,184.00</b>	<b>49,540.00</b>

Table 4: Status of encroachment in 2017

Sl. No	Name of Reserved Forest/Protected Area	Total Area (in Ha)	Area encroached (in Ha) approximately
1.	Charduar Reserved Forest	24072.00	22000.00
2.	Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary	22000.00	10000.00
3.	Balipara Reserved Forest	18972.00	10000.00
4.	Nameri National Park	20000.00	500.00
5.	Naduar Reserved Forest	8141.00	8040.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>93,184.00</b>	<b>50,540.00</b>

Table 5: Status of encroachment in 2024

Sl. No.	Name of RF/PA	Total Area (in Ha)	Area under Encroachment (in Ha) Approximately
1	Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary	22,000.00	10,000.00
2	Charduar Reserved Forest	24,072.00	22,000.00
3	Balipara Reserved Forest	18,972.00	10,000.00
4	Nameri National Park	20000.00	500.00
5	Naduar Reserved Forest	8,141.00	8,040.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>93,184.00</b>	<b>50,540.00</b>

As can be seen from the tables above, the total loss of forest areas from 1985 to 2005 is 31,145 hectares and the loss from 2005 to 2010 was 1540 hectares. Thereafter, it can be

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 Chief Secretary  
 Govt. of Assam

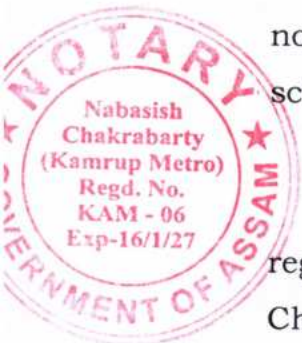
seen that there is no significant difference between the google earth imagery of 2017 and 2024 and therefore, there is no major loss of forest cover from 2017 and thereafter. Hence, the efforts of the Government of Assam in halting encroachment are evident from the data given in the tables above.

Satellite imagery from the years 2000, 2005, 2010, 2017 & 2024 have been annexed to support my statements. These documents are marked as **Annexures 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.**

5. These forests have 14 forest villages established during 1950-71 and their population has also multiplied manifold. In addition to this, the Scheduled tribe communities staying inside these forest areas, have submitted a total claim of 23,028 under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, in short FRA 2006, in Charduar Reserved Forest, Balipara Reserved Forest, and Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. A large population of the SC, ST and OBC populations among others now are inhabiting these forests and are in the need of provisioning of schools, roads, drinking water facilities etc.

6. As directed by the Hon'ble Tribunal in para 10 of the order regarding illegal constructions/encroachments made within the Charduar Reserved Forest and Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary, and also to list the names of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests who permitted such extensive constructions within the Reserved Forests and Wildlife Sanctuary, the answering respondent begs to state that a detailed sketch about encroachments in the Reserved Forests and Wildlife Sanctuary have already been presented in the previous paragraphs, which depicts an arresting trend of further encroachments.

*Sanjita*  
Chief Secretary  
Govt. of Assam



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**NABASISH CHAKRABARTY**  
NOTARY Govt. of Assam  
Regd. No. KAM - 06  
Panbazer, Guwahati - 781001

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7. The answering respondent further begs to state that reports were called from the District Commissioner, Sonitpur and the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Assam. As per these reports, a total of six no of activities were mentioned namely:

- i. Construction of Schools
- ii. Sluice Gate Construction in Charduar RF
- iii. Tea Garden Set Up by one J Ram Rabha Inside Charduar Reserved Forest
- iv. Setting up of Polling Stations inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary
- v. Installation of Ring wells
- vi. Construction of Roads

A brief description of each of these activities and the officials responsible is given below: -

a) **Construction of Schools:** As per the report of the District Commissioner, Sonitpur District, officers from the rank of Junior Engineer to Commissioner & Secretary who were responsible for the construction of schools—right from the preparation of proposals, release of funds, and construction—have been identified, with a total of 8 officials named.

b) **Sluice Gate Construction in Charduar Reserved Forest:** No officer from Sonitpur District was named in the report by the District Commissioner. As per the report, the project area falls under the jurisdiction of Udalguri District.

c) **Tea Garden Set Up by Shri J Ram Rabha Inside Charduar Reserved Forest:** The District Commissioner reported that the DFO, Sonitpur West, issued notices and subsequently took action to clear the tea garden illegally set up in the Charduar Reserve Forest.

*Sanjib Kumar*  
Chief Conservator  
Govt. of Assam



*Sanjib*  
NABASISH CHAKRABARTY  
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d) **Polling Stations Set Up Under 71 Dhekiajuli, 74 Rangapara, and 75 Sootea Legislative Assembly:** Thirteen LP schools were requisitioned as polling stations as per Election Commission of India guidelines. The polling stations were set up within a 2 km reach of voters to include all eligible voters, despite their status as encroachers.

e) **Ring Wells Installed Inside Charduar Reserved Forest and Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary:** The District Commissioner has named an Executive Engineer (PHE), Tezpur Division, responsible for the installation of four ring wells within the Reserved Forest area.

f) **Construction of Roads:** The District Commissioner, Sonitpur, has named 8 officers from the rank of Junior Engineer to Chief Engineer, PWD (Border Roads and NEC Works), responsible for improving roads inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. The road works were undertaken based on a proposal by the then DC, Sonitpur, in 2015, following a request by the then Superintendent of Police, Sonitpur, for better connectivity and logistics for security personnel stationed inside the forest area.

A photocopy of the detailed report of the DC, Sonitpur, the Divisional Forest Officer, Western Assam Wildlife Division, the Divisional Forest Officer, Sonitpur West Division are annexed herewith and marked as **Annexure - 7, 8, and 9 respectively.**

8. The District Commissioner, Sonitpur, the Divisional Forest Officer, Western Assam Wildlife Division, the Divisional Forest Officer, Sonitpur West Division have submitted the lists of the officers who were holding office at that time when the above-mentioned works were executed. The matter as to who actually permitted such activities inside the Reserved Forests & Wildlife Sanctuary is still under examination.

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Chief Secretary  
Govt. of Assam



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NOTARY Govt. of Assam  
Regd. No. KAM - 06  
Panbazer, Guwahati - 781001

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9. It is also pertinent to mention at this point that due to deteriorating law and order situation and militants' infestation in these areas, an atmosphere of fear had prevailed. It is briefly mentioned here that large number of miscreants attacked forest offices, burnt office buildings and IBs, kidnapped and murdered forest staff who tried to protect the forest. Miscreants also resorted to the arms snatching from forest camps. Additional affidavit may be submitted by the answering respondent if desired by the Hon'ble Tribunal in this regard.

10. The Hon'ble Tribunal, in its order dated 02-05-2024, also directed the Chief Secretary to explain the inaction of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests under whose supervision these illegal activities continued since 2017. The answering respondent submits that while some of the constructions activities, such as schools, commenced as early as 2006, ring wells in 2010, and road works in 2015, a list of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests since 2017 is provided below:

Sl no	Name of the PCCF & HoFF, Assam	Period
1	Shri B. Brahma. IFS	20.12.2016 to 27.02.2017 (FN)
2	Shri B. S. Bonal, IFS	27.02.2017 (AN) to 28.02.2017
3	Shri B. Brahma, IFS	01.03.2017 to 29.08.2017
4	Shri D. Mathur, IFS	30.08.2017 to 31.08.2017
5	Shri B. Brahma, IFS	01.09.2017 to 28.02.2018
6	Shri D. Haraprasad, IFS	01.03.2018 to 30.04.2018
7	Shri Niranjan Kr. Vasu, IFS	01.05.2018 to 30.09.2018



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Chief Secretary  
Govt of Assam

*NABASISH CHAKRABARTY*  
NOTARY Govt. of Assam  
Regd. No. KAM - 06  
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8	Shri Shashi Kanta Srivastava, IFS	01.10.2018 31.12.2018	to
9	Shri A. M. Singh, IFS	31.12.2018 30.06.2021	to
10	Dr. Alka Bhargava, IFS	30.06.2021 31.01.2022	to
11	Dr. Amit Sahai, IFS	31.01.2022 31.05.2022	to
12	Shri M. K. Yadava, IFS	01.06.2022 29.02.2024	to
13	Shri R. P. Singh, IFS (I/C)	01.03.2024 to till date	

11. The answering respondent begs to state that the matter of the PCCF and/or any other officers under his establishment being responsible for permitting these construction activities is being inquired into.

12. That the statements made above are true to my knowledge and belief as well as derived out of available records and the same are my humble and respectful submissions before the Hon'ble Tribunal.



*N. K. Chakrabarty*

DEPONENT

Chief Secretary  
Govt. of Assam

Identified by me

*Santosh Kumar*  
Advocate

SOLEMNLY AFFIRMED and  
declared before me by the  
Deponent on being identified  
by learned Advocate

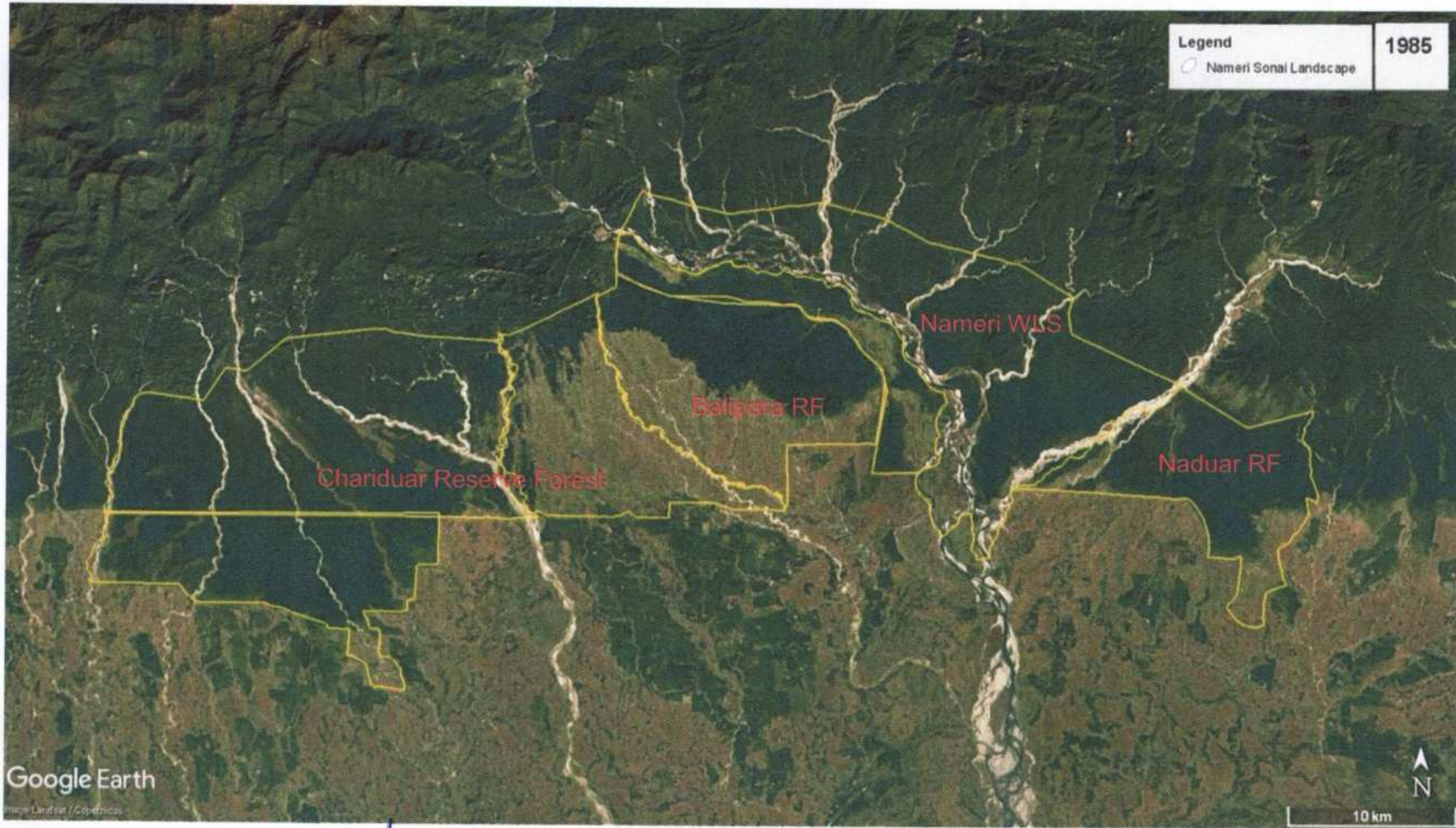
*Nabasish Chakrabarty*

NABASISH CHAKRABARTY  
NOTARY Govt. of Assam  
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20 AUG 2024

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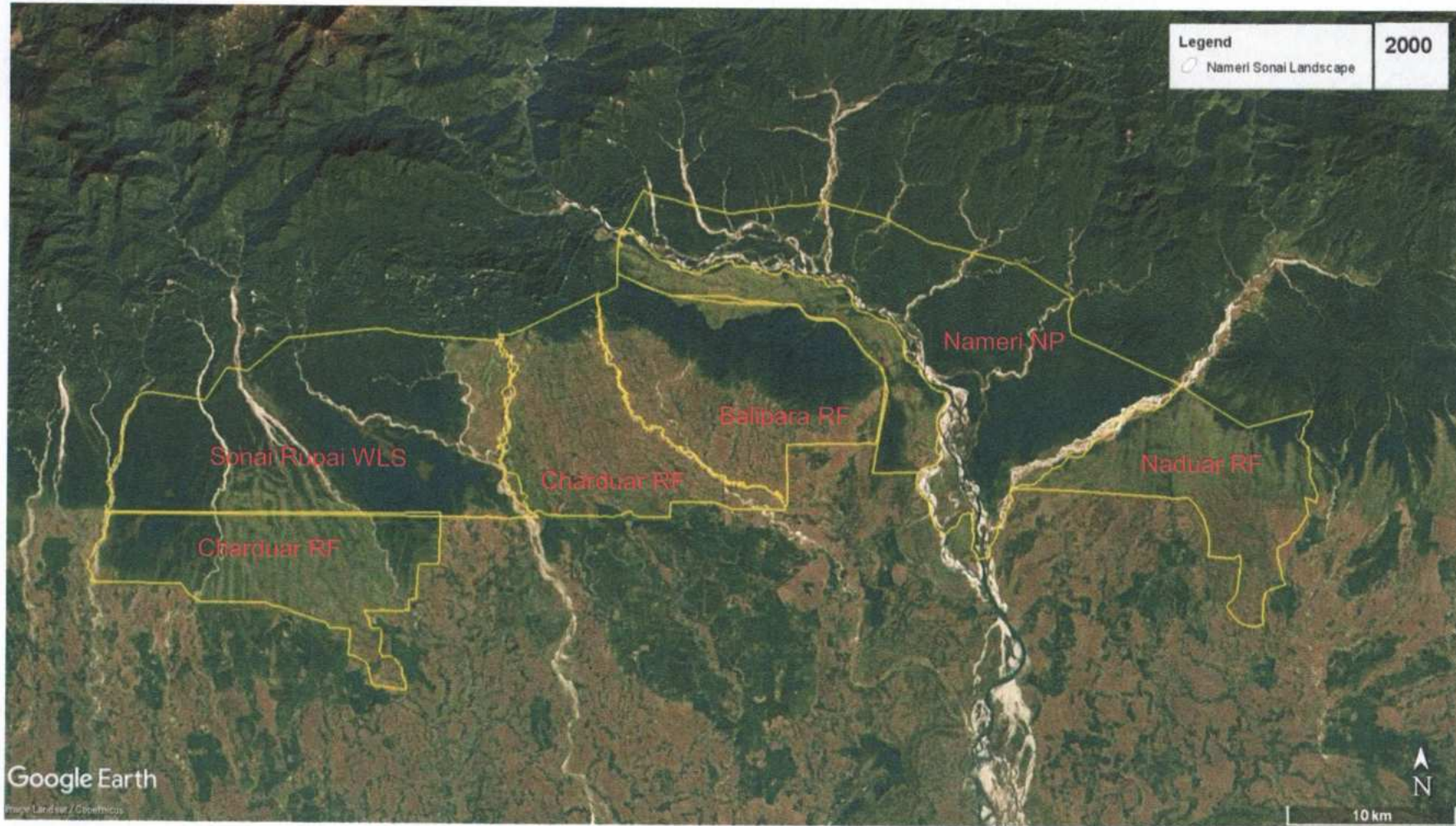
Annexure - 1



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Advocate

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Annexure - 2

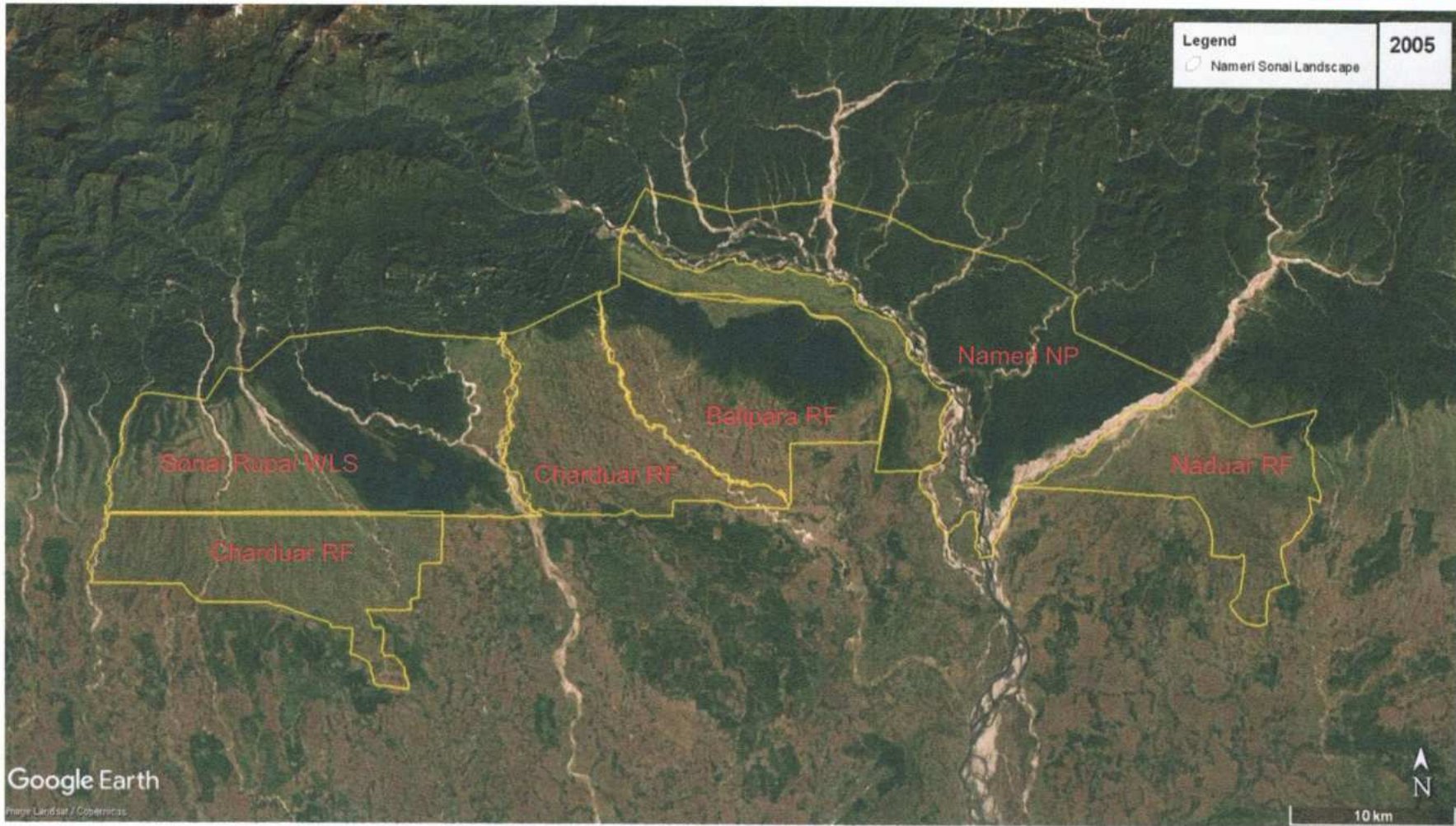


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*Sanku Basu*  
Advocate

- 13 -

# Google Earth Satellite Imagery of the Landscape, 2005

Annexure - 3

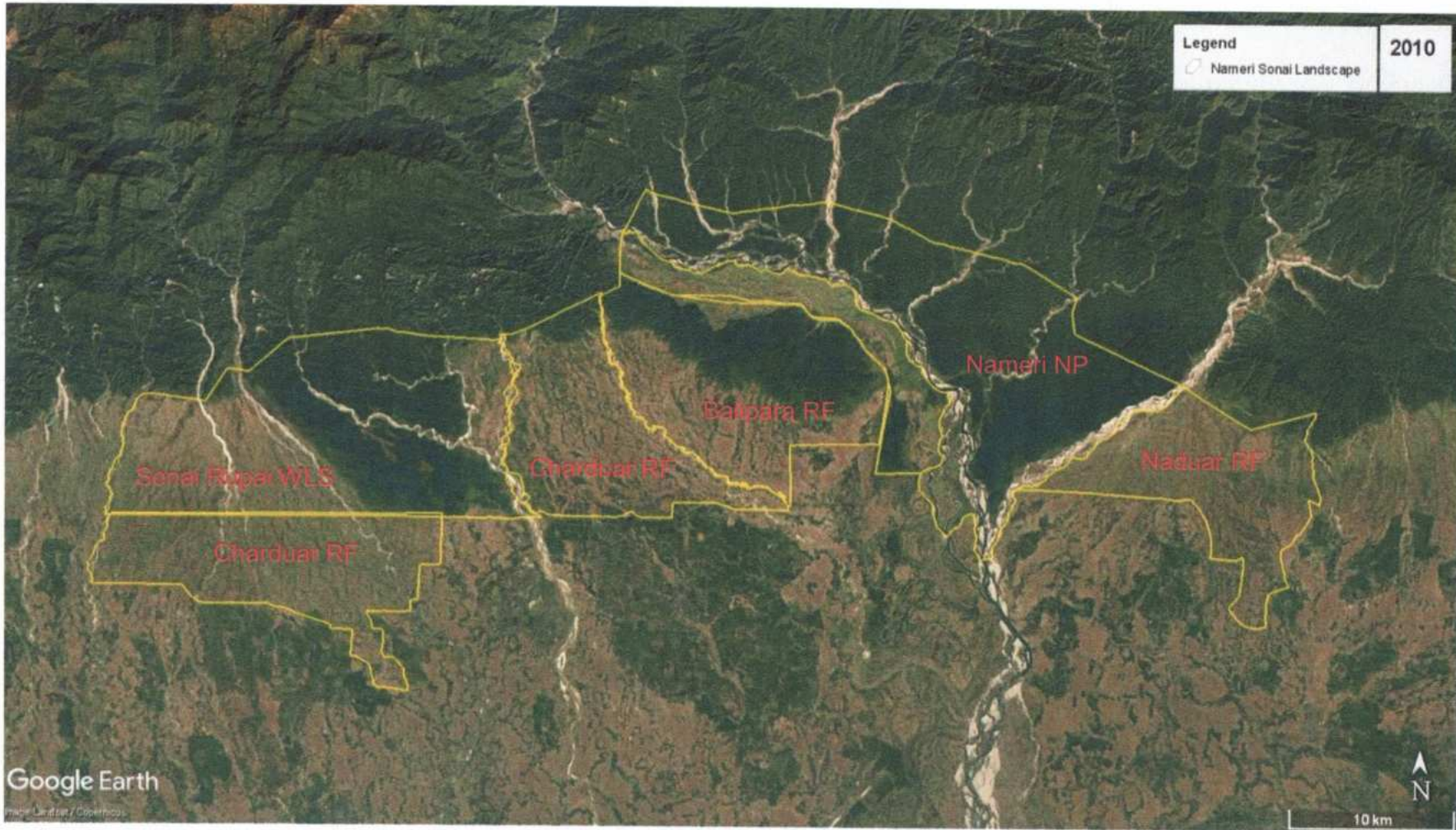


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*Sanku B.*  
Advocate

Google Earth Satellite Imagery of the Landscape, 2010

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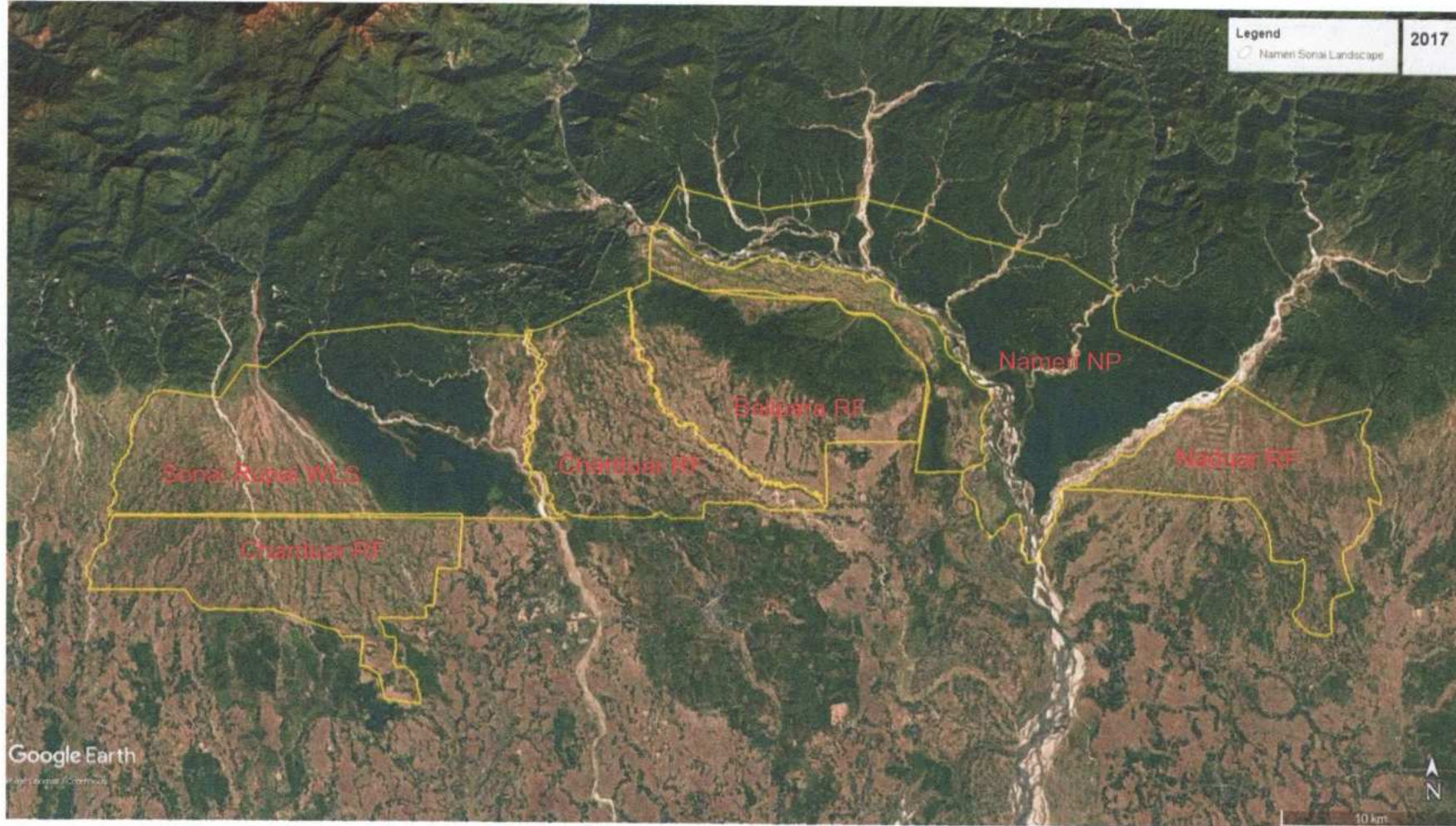
Annexure - 4



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*Sunil K*  
Advocate

# Google Earth Satellite Imagery of the Landscape, 2017

Annexure - 5

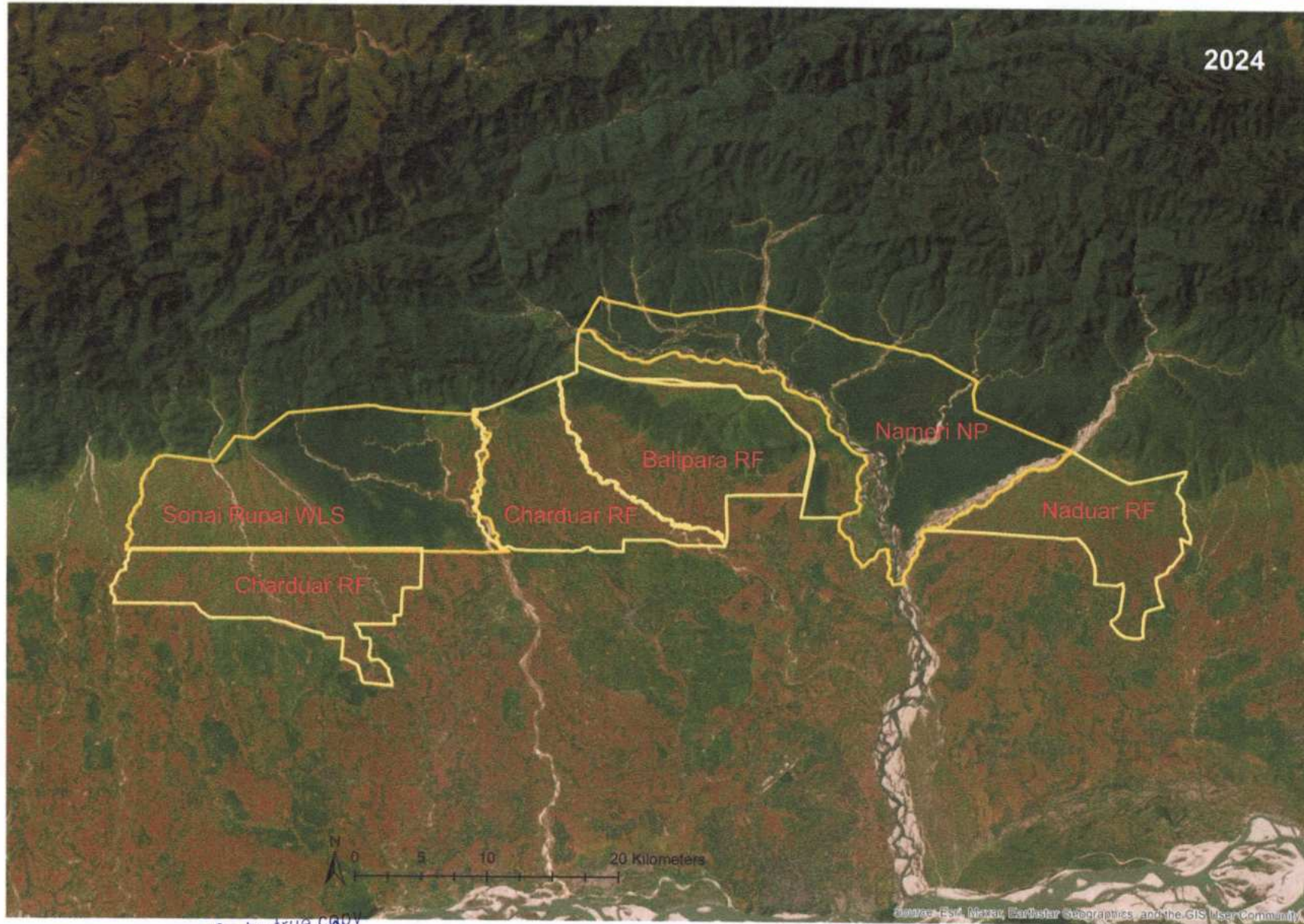


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*Sanku Bis*  
Advocate

Google Earth Satellite Imagery of the Landscape, 2024

Annexure - 6

- 16 -



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*Sanku Barua*  
Advocate

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, IGN, Aeri, GeoEye, and the GIS User Community

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER :: SONITPUR :: TEZPUR  
(Revenue Branch)

No. 118020/ 428

Date: 22/07/2024

To,

The Secretary, Co-ordination to the Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,  
O/o the Chief Secretary, Assam,  
Lok Sewa Bhawan, J Block, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor,  
Dispur, Guwahati-06.

Sub: Regarding submission of list of Officials against NGT Order dtd. 10/07/2024.

Ref:- E.Comp No.396903 dtd. 10/07/2024.

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, I have the honour to furnish herewith the required information of district level Officers (at Annexure-A) of the concerned departments against NGT Order E.Comp No.396903 dtd. 10/07/2024 filed by Dilip Nath v/s Principal Chief Conservation of Forest (PCCF), Assam & others.

This is for favour of your kind information and necessary appraisal of the Chief Secretary, Assam.

Enclo.: As stated above.

1. List of information of District level Officers at Annexure-A.
2. Detailed report from SSA, Sonitpur at Annexure-1.
3. Letter communicated to EE, Udalguri Mazbat Irrigation Division from District Commissioner, Sonitpur, Tezpur at Annexure-2.
4. Report from DFO, Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur at Annexure-3.
5. Report from O/o The District Commissioner, Sonitpur, Tezpur (Election Branch), Sonitpur, Tezpur at Annexure-4.
6. Detailed report from PHE Department at Annexure-5.
7. Detailed report from PWD (Roads) at Annexure-6.

Yours faithfully,

Signed by

Deba Kumar Mishra

Date: 20-07-2024 20:34:29

District Commissioner,  
Sonitpur, Tezpur.


Date: 22/07/2024

Memo. No. 118020/ 428 A

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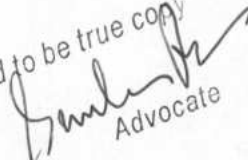
1. The Principal Chief Conservation of Forest (PCCF) & Head of Forest Forces, Assam for kind information.

e-signed  
District Commissioner,  
Sonitpur, Tezpur.

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Advocat

- 18 -

Name of the Construction	Concerned Department	Concerned Officials	Remarks
Construction of Schools	SSA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. L.S.Changsan, IAS, Commissioner &amp; Secretary (Education) cum Mission director, SSA, Assam</li> <li>2. Tuwaram Bora, District Project Engineer, SSA, Sonitpur</li> <li>3. P.K. Mahanta, ACS Addl Deputy commissioner (D) Sonitpur Cum DMC, SSA, Sonitpur</li> <li>4. Rabiram Brahma, JE, SSA, Dhekiajuli</li> <li>5. Arun Roy Choudhury, TRP, SSA, Dhekiajuli</li> <li>6. Tutumoni Saikia, TRP, SSA, Dhekiajuli</li> <li>7. Bimal Singh Phukan, TRP, SSA, Dhekiajuli</li> <li>8. Sanjay Das, JE, SSA, Balipara</li> </ol>	<p>Reference of proposal of construction of Schools can be found in the letter/Notification No. SSA/EGS/P&amp;M/Upgradation-EGS/156/2009/39 dated 5/01/2010 issued by then Commissioner &amp; Secretary (Education) cum Mission director, SSA, L.S.Changsan, IAS, citing the reference of Notification No. PMA.174/2009/53 dated 31/12/2009 issued by office of the Honourable Governor of Assam. (<b>Annexure-1A</b>)</p> <p>Based on this, construction was permitted by then Commissioner &amp; Secretary (Education) cum Mission director, SSA, L.S.Changsan, IAS vide letter/Notification No. SSA/CW/NSB (EGS centre) /45/2009-10/2010/518 Dated 15/02/2010 in connection to formation of SMC for upgraded EGS centres (<b>Annexure-1B</b>). Subsequently, drawing and estimates for construction of new school buildings was submitted by then Commissioner &amp; Secretary (Education) cum Mission director, SSA, L.S.Changsan, IAS vide letter/Notification No. SSA/CW/GEN-Forest/160/2002/Pt-vi/165 dated 7/01/2011 (<b>Annexure-1C</b>) and accordingly, fund was released vide Notification No. SSA/CW/Fund Release/2009-2010/165/2009/903 Dated 12/03/2010 (<b>Annexure-1D</b>) and notification No SSA/CW/Fund Release/2009-2010/165/2009/1141 Dated 27/03/2010 (<b>Annexure-1E</b>)</p> <p>After release of Funds, order was issued by Tuwaram Bora, then District Project Engineer, SSA, Sonitpur regarding site allotment to Junior Engineer/Technical Resource Person in all the educational blocks of Sonitpur district vide order No. SSA/Sonit/CW/EGS/09-10/1928/3031 dated 31/03/2010 (<b>Annexure-1F</b>).</p> <p>The relevant detailed report from the concerned department is attached herewith as <b>Annexure-1</b>.</p>
2 Sluice Gate at Siloni River	Irrigation	NIL from Sonitpur district	<p>The area of Udaiguri Mazbat Irrigation Division falls under the jurisdiction of Udaiguri district. Communication regarding the same has been made from the undersigned vide letter No. E-118020/410 dated 12/07/2024 and attached herewith as <b>Annexure-2</b></p>
3 Tea garden set up by one Jay Ram Rabha within Charduar Range	NA	NA	<p>On 12/06/2018 vide letter No.FSWT/B/FCA,1980/2018/3623-25, DFO, Sonitpur West Division wrote a letter to Chairman, ABITA, Sonitpur to provide all details regarding setting up of a tea garden by Jay Ram Rabha without prior permission from the authority. Also, a notice was issued on 12/06/2018 vide letter No.FSWT/B/FCA,1980/2018/3623-25 to Jay Ram Rabha on violation of Forest Conversation Act,1980. (<b>Annexure-3A</b>)</p> <p>As per latest status, DFO Sonitpur West Division has already cleared the above said tea garden on 29/06/2024. Report from the concerned department is attached herewith as <b>Annexure-3</b>.</p>

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 Advocate

Polling stations set up under 1-Dhekiajuli, 74-Rangapara and 75- Sootea Legislative Assembly	Election	<p>For the purpose of election, following schools were requisitioned as polling stations as per Election Commission of India guidelines and according to the Section 160 of the Representation of the People Act-1951-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Champa Pathar LP School established in 2006.</li> <li>2. Adabari LP School established in 2006.</li> <li>3. Haldhibari LP School established in 2004.</li> <li>4. Jordanpuri LP School established in 2006.</li> <li>5. Rumaijuli LP School established in 2000.</li> <li>6. Jiabari LP School established in 2006.</li> <li>7. Dwmwilu Bodo LP School established in 2001.</li> <li>8. Bineswar Brahma Memorial MESchool, Laodungi established in 2000.</li> <li>9. Swajnabari Boro LP School established in 2002</li> <li>10. Kardanpur LP School established in 2006.</li> <li>11. Besrao LP School established in 2004.</li> <li>12. Jalalbari LP School established in 2006.</li> <li>13. Amlaiguri LP School established in 2000</li> </ol>	<p>In connection to setting up of polling stations inside Wildlife Sanctuary, T.C.Sarma, then Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur communicated to the Principal Secretary to Hon'ble CM, Assam vide letter No.SCM.39/2011-12/991 dated 27th Feb,2012, where it mentioned that it was done in the spirit of inclusion of eligible voters as no eligible voters can be left out on the ground of being encroachers and thus the name of these population got into Electoral Rolls .It is to be noted that, these encroachers are citizen of India and ordinary resident of the district. As per guidelines of Election Commission of India(ECI) polling stations are to be set up within 2(two)km reach of voters. ( <b>Annexure- 4A</b>)</p> <p>Further, in the year 2014 the matter was communicated to the Chief Electoral Officer, Assam by then Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur for necessary instruction regarding these polling stations vide letter No.SEL.30/96/1054 dated 01/04/2014 citing reference to the letter No.B/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary/2014/330-31 dated 27/03/2014 from the then Divisional Forest Officer, Western Assam Wildlife Division,Tezpur. ( <b>Annexure-4B</b>).</p> <p>The detailed report and clarification regarding requisition of Polling Stations for Election purpose which was done as per Election Commission of India guidelines and according to the Section 160 of the Representation of the People Act-1951 vide letter No.SEL.1/2023-2024/Pt-I dtd.20/07/2024 provided at <b>Annexure-4</b>.</p>
5 Ring wells were installed	PHED	1)Sri Jitendra Nath Deka, Executive Engineer(PHE), Tezpur division- II	There are 4 ringwells installed inside the reserved forest area against list of pinpoints given by the Hon'ble MLA Dhekiajuli vide letter No. DMLA/DKJ/POWER/13/18-19/dtd. 04-07-2019( <b>Annexure-5B</b> ). Accordingly, work order was issued by then Executive Engineer(PHE), Tezpur division- II, Sri Jitendra Nath Deka( <b>Annexure-5A</b> ). The detailed report from the concerned department is attached herewith as <b>Annexure-5</b> .
5 Construction of Roads	PWD-Roads	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Bani Kanta Das, Chief Engineer, Assam, PWD (Border Roads and NEC Works)</li> <li>2) Bharat Kumar Bhattacharya, Additional Chief Engineer, Tezpur Zone</li> <li>3) Lt. Ashim Kumar Dutta, Executive Engineer</li> <li>4) Tankeswar Deka, Assistant Executive Engineer</li> <li>5) Pankaj Borah, Junior Engineer</li> <li>6) Niranjana Choudhary, Junior Engineer</li> <li>7) Biren Kumar Das, Junior Engineer</li> <li>8) Bichitra Hazarika, Junior Engineer .</li> </ol> <p>(Sl. No.3 to 8 belong to Sonitpur State Road Division, Tezpur)</p>	<p>The improvement of the roads in the Sonai-Rupai wildlife sanctuary area was taken up by the concerned department based on the proposal from then Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur following the then Superintendent of Police, Sonitpur's letter vide No.CB/2015/291 dated 02/02/2015(<b>Annexure-6A</b>) for connectivity and logistics arrangements to the security personnels stationed inside forest area especially for the barracks that were constructed for accomodation of Army/CAPF personnel after many innocent poeple killed by NDFB(S).</p> <p>During the execution of the work, the concerned department was asked to halt the ongoing activity by the Deputy Commission vide letter No.SPL.57/2016/PWD/9 dated 26/07/2016(<b>Annexure-6B</b>) citing a letter issued by DFO,WAWD,Tezpur vide his letter No. B/WAWL/Encroachment/2016/802 dated 11/07/2016(<b>Annexure-6C</b>).</p> <p>Constructions activities were stopped and the department communicated the same vide letter No.C/1511/R/2015/1448 dated 20/09/2016(<b>Annexure-6D</b>) . Report from the concerned department is attached herewith as <b>Annexure-6</b></p>

Signed by

Deba Kumar Mishra

Date: 20-07-2024 20:33:58

District Commissioner,  
Sonitpur, Tezpur.

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Advocate



GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER:  
WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION cum  
THE FIELD DIRECTOR: : NAMERI TIGER RESERVE  
DOLABARI : : TEZPUR



Email ID: dfo.wawl@gmail.com

Letter No. B/WAWL/Encroachment/NGT/2024/ 1220

Dated: 16/07/2024

To

The District Commissioner,  
Sonitpur, Tezpur.

Sub:- Regarding NGT order.

Ref: Your office letter No.E-118020/410 dated 12.07.2024.

Sir,

With reference to the subject and letter mentioned above, I have the honour to furnish herewith the list of unauthorized activities inside the Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

**Violations inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary**

Year	Violation
1998 Onwards	Organized encroachment inside Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. Approximately 100 sq.km of the sanctuary is encroached.
2010	Construction of forty (40) schools inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary and Charduar Reserve Forest
2010	Illegal establishment of polling station of 71- Dhekiajuli, 74-Rangapara and 75-Sootea L.A. inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary
2010	Installation of Ring wells inside Sonai-Rupai wildlife Sanctuary
2016	Construction & execution of 5Km Road developmental works inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

The report detailing these unauthorized activities along with the supporting documents have already been submitted to the higher authority vide letter No. A/WAWL/Encroachment (Sonai-Rupai WLS)/2023/1118 dated 06.10.2023; which the copy of same is attached herewith for your ready reference.

This is for your information and necessary action, please.

Encl: As stated above.

Yours faithfully,

[Piraisoodan B., IFS]  
Divisional Forest Officer,  
Western Assam Wildlife Division &  
Field Director, Nameri Tiger Reserve

Letter No. A/WAWL/Encroachment/NGT/2024/ 696

Dated: 16/07/2024

Copy to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam, Aranya Bhawan, Panjabari, Guwahati-37 for favour of kind information.

Divisional Forest Officer,  
Western Assam Wildlife Division &  
Field Director, Nameri Tiger Reserve

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Sund. B.  
Advocate



GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER  
WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION cum  
THE FIELD DIRECTOR:: NAMERI TIGER RESERVE  
DOLABARI :: TEZPUR



/EmailID:dfo.wawl@gmail.com

Letter no. A/WAWL/ Encroachment (Sonai Rupai WLS) /2023/ 113

Dated: 6/10/2023

To,

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest,  
Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam  
Aranaya Bhawan, Panjabari  
Guwahati-37, Assam.

Sub: Regarding complaint petition of Shri Dilip Nath

Ref: Your office letter No. WL/FG/27/Public grievance/2019 dtd. 26.09.2023.

Sir,

With reference to the above-mentioned letter, I have the honour to submit the chronological factual report and updated status along with supporting documents organized in following headings regarding the complaint filed by Shri Dilip Nath (Reporter):

1. Organized mass encroachment in Sonai Rupai Wildlife sanctuary.
2. Construction of school buildings inside the notified boundary of Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.
3. Setting up of polling booth in the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.
4. Construction of roads inside the notified area of Sonai Rupai Wildlife sanctuary.
5. Installation of ring wells inside the notified area of Sonai Rupai wildlife sanctuary.
6. Implementation of Forest Right Act, 2006 in Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

This is for favour of your kind information and necessary action.

Enclo: As stated.

Yours faithfully,

[Piraisoodan B, IFS]  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division &  
Field Director, Nameri Tiger Reserve

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**CHRONOLOGY OF ORGANISED MASS ENCROACHMENT IN SONAI RUPAI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY**

Year	Event
1878	Charduar RF was notified vide notification no. 5 dtd. 17.10.1878.
1903	161.28 Sq Km of Charduar RF was declared as Sonai Rupai Game Sanctuary
1998	<p>Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary (WLS) with area of 220 Sq Km was notified vide Govt. Notification Govt. Notification No. FRW-33/98/11 dtd. 04 Sept 1998. <b>(Copy enclosed as Annexure 1)</b>. There was no forest village inside the sanctuary and no claims of rights of any kind within its boundary of sanctuary was received during the process of declaration of Sanctuary.</p> <p>The administrative control of Sonai Rupai WLS was with Sonitpur West Division.</p> <p>Soon after its establishment, the sanctuary faced major encroachments by the Bodo community, spreading northwards from the Batasipur area of Charduar RF. By 2002-03, prime forest land between the Belsiri and Pachnoi rivers was cleared due to these encroachments.</p>
2006	<p>On 22.07.2006, the administrative control of Sonai Rupai WLS` was transferred to the Western Assam Wildlife Division. At that time, a significant portion of the sanctuary was under encroachment, estimated to be approximately 85 sq km.</p> <p>On 30.11.2006, a visit to Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary by the Deputy Commissioner (DC), Superintendent of Police (SP), Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), WAWL Division and DFO, Sonitpur West Division, and the Commandant of 168 CRPF Battalion revealed extensive tree felling inside the sanctuary.</p> <p>On 04.12.2006, a meeting was held at the office of the Deputy Commissioner, attended by DC &amp; SP, Sonitpur, DFO, WAWL Division, DFO, Sonitpur West Division and Commandant, 168n CRPF Battalion to discuss measures to contain the large-scale tree felling and prevent further destruction of the forest inside the Sanctuary <b>(Copy of MoM is enclosed as Annexure 2)</b>.</p> <p>On 08.12.2006, the SP, Sonitpur, requested the deployment of 4-armed force companies to stop encroachers from advancing further into the non-encroached area of Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary <b>(Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 3)</b>.</p> <p>However, only one platoon of APBn was deployed, which was withdraw after brief period as per the direction of the IGP (Law &amp; Order).</p>
2007	On 06.03.2007, Shri M.C. Malakar, then the CCF, Wildlife wrote the letter to the Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Department of Environment & Forests regarding issue organized mass encroachment in Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary with a request to take


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Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division  
Sonitpur, Assam

	<p>the matter with Hon'ble Minister, Forest and Hon'ble Chief Minister and impress upon them to convene a high level meeting to discuss the problem and to give the necessary instruction to all the concerned authorities for tackling the situation at the earliest (<b>Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 4</b>).</p> <p>On 30.08.2007, the DC cum DM Sonitpur imposed section 144 of CrPC in the forest area between Sonitpur Kameng Elephant Reserve (that includes Sonai Rupai WLS Sanctuary) to stop further encroaching of forest land (<b>Copy of order enclosed as Annexure 5</b>).</p>
2014	<p>On 01.05.2014, a mob of around 300 people with lethal weapon attacked the Range Officer and staff of Kalmati Range in the Range Office in which two casualties occurred among attackers. However, Range Officer and an AFPF staff member were arrested instead of attackers which were released on same day due to intervention of the court.</p> <p>There was a spike in the incidents of threat and assault to Forest Staff posted in Kalamati Range that control Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary by encroachers/ in the year 2014. It is highlighted in the letter No. A/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2014/529-531 dtd 29.12.2014 written by the DFO, WAWL Division to the PCCF (Wildlife), Assam (<b>Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 6</b>).</p>
2015	<p>An area of 120 sq. km of Sanctuary was notified as "Satellite Core of Nameri Tiger Reserve" Vide Govt. Notification No. FRM- 236/2014/23 dt. 18th June, 2015 (<b>Copy enclosed as Annexure 7</b>).</p>

**NB:** Over the years, various developmental activities in violation of the law have taken place within the notified area of Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. These include the construction of school buildings, PWD roads, installation of ring wells, and establishment of polling booths. These actions, carried out by different government departments, constitute violations of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 (amended) and the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 (amended). Detailed information regarding these violations, along with the actions taken by this office, is provided separately in this report.

  
 Divisional Forest Officer  
 Western Assam Wildlife Division  
 Dibrugarh

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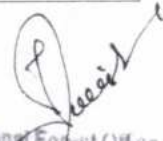
**CHRONOLOGY OF INCIDENT REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS INSIDE THE NOTIFIED AREA OF SONAI RUPAI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY.**


Year	Event
2010	<p>On 16/12/2010 vide No DF-SSA-SRA-122, a letter, regarding the unauthorised construction of forty (40) schools in Sonai Rupai and Chariduar Reserve Forest was received from Mr. Dilip Nath, Panchnoi Village, P.O: Hugrajuli, Sonitpur, with a request to take up necessary action to protect the forest area (Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary) and to take necessary action against the defaulters of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 (<b>Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 8</b>).</p> <p>On 27/12/2010, the DFO of WAWL Division wrote to the DMC of Assam Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Mission, Sonitpur, regarding the construction of LP Schools inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. The letter highlighted that constructing schools in a wildlife sanctuary is considered a "Non Forestry Activity" under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980. The DFO made query in letter that whether prior permission from the Central Govt. was obtained for constructing schools within the Wildlife Sanctuary area. Additionally, details regarding the person who proposed the school locations within the sanctuary and the person who granted approval were requested. Instructions were given to halt all constructions within the Wildlife Sanctuary (<b>Copy of Letter enclosed as Annexure 9</b>).</p>
2011	<p>In response, Shri P.K. Mahanta, ACS, District Mission Coordinator, wrote a letter to DFO, WAWL Division on 24.01.2011, stating that as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, some EGS centres were established by SSA, Assam. The upgraded EGS centers were converted to formal LP Schools under the Education Department, Assam, with the Deputy Commissioner as the chairperson of the district-level EGS Committee and the Mission Director, SSA, Assam, as the chairperson for the state level. The proposal was initiated by a notified committee at various levels and approved by the Government of Assam (<b>Letter enclosed as Annexure 10</b>).</p> <p>On 28/12/2011, Shri P.K. Mahanta, ACS, ADC (D) cum District Mission Coordinator (DMC) of Axom Sarba Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Sonitpur, had written letter to all DFOs of the Sonitpur and Biswanath Chariali stating that 68 no. of EGS upgraded "New School Buildings" falls under the reserved forest/wildlife Sanctuary and funds for construction of "New School Building" was released to the account of Sonitpur Mission Coordinator (SMC) concerned. Further he requested the undersigned</p>

Divisional Forest Officer  
WAWL Assam Wildlife Division  
Dolebari, Tezpur

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	as well as others DFOs of districts to accord permission for taking up construction works of the school buildings. ( <b>Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 11</b> ). In fact, the construction of the schools started even before seeking proper permission or consulting the Forest Department.
2012	<p>In response, on 09/01/2012, the DFO of Western Assam Wildlife Division wrote to Shri P.K. Mahanta, ACS, ADC (D), Sonitpur, DMC, SSA, Sonitpur, stating that permission could not be granted without prior authorization from the Central Government. The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, prohibits non-forestry activities, including construction of school buildings, without proper authorization. Additionally, a request was made to survey the proposed building site using GPS coordinates to determine if it fell within the reserved forest or Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary (<b>Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 12</b>).</p> <p>However, despite not receiving permission from the competent authority to construct schools within the sanctuary, the District Mission Coordinator of Assam SSA, Sonitpur, proceeded with the construction of 12 school buildings, thereby violating section 2 of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 (<b>The list of school buildings with GPS details is enclosed as Annexure 13</b>).</p>
2013	On 08.05.2013, a Show cause notice under provision of FC, Act, 1980 was served to official involved by the DFO, WAWL Division to explain the reason for construction of schools on the forest land of sanctuary but no reply of any kind received from the DMC, SSA. ( <b>Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 14</b> ) even after lapse of 60 days,
2016	<p>On 28.06.2016, a reminder notice of 30 days was served (<b>Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 15</b>).</p> <p>In response to the reminder show cause notice, Mrs. Buli Gogoi Bhuyan, AES, DMC, SSA, Sonitpur wrote letter to DFO, WAWL Division on 26.08.2016 vide letter No. SSA/Sonit/CW/EGS/09-10/1928/460 stated that EGS centres were established following the guidelines of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India. The Government of Assam upgraded these EGS centers to LP Schools, and building grants of Rs.9.98 lakhs were sanctioned to the School Managing Committees (SMC) from the State Mission office. The construction of the school buildings was carried out by the respective SMC using the funds received. These centres are currently functioning as government LP Schools under the Department of Education, Assam. The proposal was initiated by a notified committee at various levels, as approved by the Government of Assam (<b>Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 16</b>).</p>

  
 Divisional Forest Officer  
 Western Assam Wildlife Division  
 Dabari, Tezpur

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**CHRONOLOGY OF INCIDENTS REGARDING SETTING UP OF POLLING BOOTHS  
INSIDE THE NOTIFIED AREA OF SONAI RUPAI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY.**


Year	Event
2010	<p>On 07/12/2010, Deputy Commissioner Sonitpur and District Election Officer, Tezpur had written to the DFO, WAWL Division, requesting factual information under existing forest rules with respect to the list of polling station of 71- Dhekiajuli, 74-Rangapara and 75-Sootea L.A. <b>(Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 17)</b></p> <p>In reply to that letter, DFO, WAWL Division On 13/12/2010 wrote back stating that polling station should not be set inside the Sonia Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary and Nameri National Park as it amounts to non-forestry activities under the provision of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 (amended). <b>(Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 18)</b></p>
2011	<p>On 21.2.2011, DFO, WAWL, Division again wrote letter to Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur requesting not to locate any polling station inside the notified area of Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuay as the said act is amount to violation of FC Act, 1980. <b>(Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 19)</b></p> <p>On 19.11.2011, DFO, WAWL Division wrote letter to DC, Sonitpur requesting him for deputing staff for carrying out joint survey by using GPS to determine exact location 27 no. polling booths constituted DC inside the notified area of Sanctuary as alleged by Shri Dilip Nath on behalf of Aranya Suraskha Samiti. <b>(Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 20)</b>. Accordingly, the DC, Sonitpur instructed Circle Officer, Dhekiajuli with copy to the DFO, WAWL vide his letter no. SEL.30/96/1477(A) dtd. 05.01.12 for depute LR staff to assist forest staff in surveying polling station. However, till date no such assistance received from the Circle office.</p>
2013	<p>A survey was conducted by this office on own and found that 12 schools functioning as the polling station fall within the notified area of the Sonai Rupai WLS. The DFO, WAWL Division, vide letter no. B/WAWL/Sonai Rupai WLS/2013/1437 dtd.14/08/2013 informed Circle Officer, Dhekiajuli Revenue Circle regarding the direction of PCCF, Wildlife, Assam for derecognizing the said schools. <b>(Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 21)</b>.</p>
2014	<p>On 27.03.2014 vide no. B/WAWL/Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary/2014/330-3, the DFO, WAWL Division wrote letter to DC Sonitpur requesting him to take necessary action against setting up of polling Station inside Sonai Rupai vide letter no. 1 dtd 27.03.2014 <b>(Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 22)</b>.</p>

*[Signature]*  
 Divisional Forest Officer,  
 West Assam Wildlife Division,  
 Dolabari, Tezpur

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<p>On 01.04.2014 the DC, Sonitpur reported the matter to Chief Electoral Officer, Assam Dispur with request to issue necessary instruction in this regard <b>(Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 23)</b>.</p>
<p>On 09.04.2014 Shri R.P. Agrawalla, IFS, the then PCCF (Wildlife) wrote a letter to the Principal Secretary to the Government of Assam, Department of Environment &amp; Forest, Dispur to look into the matter of setting up of polling station inside the Sonai Rupai WLS (forest land) and move Government of India for onward necessary action for seeking instructions from the Election Commission for taking necessary action on the issue. <b>(Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 24)</b>.</p>

  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division  
Dibrugarh, Tezpur

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**CHRONOLOGY OF INCIDENTS REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD INSIDE THE NOTIFIED BOUNDARY OF SONAI RUPAI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY**

Year	Event
2016	On 15.03. 2016 an e-mail was received from PCCF (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam ( <b>Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 25</b> ) and a complaint was also filed by Sri Dilip Nath (Reporter) dated 11/03/2016 ( <b>Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 26</b> ) regarding the execution of developmental works inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.
	Acting on these communications, on 15/03/2016 DFO, WAWL Division instructed the Range Officer, Kalamati Wildlife Range to enquire into the matter and submit a detailed report on the matter ( <b>Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 27</b> )
	The Range Officer, Kalamati Range vide Memo No. SR/52/PWD Roads/2016/51 dated 17/03/2016 submitted a report along with the survey map. It was evident from the report that almost 5 Kms of the stretch from Lalbary centre to Bogai Centre via Khaola Centre, which is along the road from Hugrajuli to Khaola Centre falls within the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. ( <b>Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 28</b> )
	Consequent to the Report of the Range officer, a letter was issued by DFO, WAWL Div to the Executive Engineer, Sonitpur State Road Division on 17/03/2016 instructing him to immediately stop all the construction activities falling within the Sonai Rupai wildlife Sanctuary citing the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 and the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. ( <b>Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 29</b> ).
	Subsequently, a letter from the Executive engineer No. C/1511/R/2015/3278 dated 19/03/2016 was received, in which the Executive engineer had requested for an N.O.C from this office for carrying out the maintenance/ repair works of the roads falling under Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. ( <b>Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 30</b> ).
	On 30.03.2016 a reply was given in response to the letter received from the office of the Executive engineer stating that the office of the undersigned is not empowered to give any NOC in this regard and permission from the competent authority may be sought in this regard ( <b>Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 31</b> )
	However, the concern department proceeded with the work. Therefore, on 05.04.2016 a show notice of 60 days u/s 9(1) of Forest Conservation Rules 2003 was served to A show case Executive

Divisional Forest Officer  
Waste Assam Wildlife Division  
Dolabari, Tezpur


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Engineer, State Road Division to explain the reason for taking up the road construction work inside the Sonai Rupai WLS <b>(Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 32)</b>
On 27.05.2016 a reply to show cause notice was received from the Executive Engineer, Sonitpur State Road Division stating that the work was taken up as per the instruction of DC, Sonitpur, Tezpur <b>(Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 33).</b>
On 11.07.2016, the DFO, WAWL Division wrote letter to the DC, Sonitpur seeking her comments, clarification and suggestion in the matter for violation of the provision of the FC, Act 1980 <b>(Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 34).</b>
Since no response was taken by district administration, an FIR was lodged against Contractor Shri Lalit Kr Agarwala, O/o the Executive Engineer, PWD, Sonitpur State Road Division, Tezpur in Dhekiajuli Police station by Range Officer, Kalamati Range vide his office letter No. SR/10/FIR/2016/220-21 dtd 24.08.2016 for violating various section of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (amended) and FC Act, 1980 (amended) by constructing road of 5km long stretch within the encroached area of Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary <b>(Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 35 ).</b>
On 20.09.2016, Executive Engineer, PWD Sonitpur State Road Div., Tezpur informed DFO, WAWL Div, vide office letter no. C/1511/R/2016/448 dtd.20.09.2016 informing that the road construction had stopped in said area within the sanctuary.

**INSTALLATION OF RINGWELLS INSIDE THE NOTIFIED BOUNDARY OF SONAI RUPAI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY**

Year	Event
2010	On 03.04.2010, the DFO, WAWL Division wrote letter to the Executive Engineer, PHE, Division, Sonitpur, Tezpur to stop installation of ring well inside the encroached area of Sonai Rupai Wildlife sanctuary after matter of construction brought to the notice to this office <b>(Copy of letter enclosed as Annexure 36)</b> . Following that the department of PHE has stopped the works.

  
 Divisional Forest Officer  
 West Assam Wildlife Division  
 Dighai, Tezpur

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COPY OF GOVT. NOTIFICATION NO.FRW-33/98/11 DATED 4TH SEPTEMBER, 1998 ISSUED BY THE  
COMMISSIONER & SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF ASSAM, ENVIRONMENT & FOREST DEPARTMENT, ASSAM

পঞ্জীভুক্ত নম্বৰ - ৭৬৮/১৭

Registered No: - 768/97

অসম



ৰাজপত্ৰ

**THE ASSAM GAZETTE**

অসাধাৰণ

**EXTRAORDINARY**

প্ৰাপ্ত কৰ্তৃত্বৰ দ্বাৰা প্ৰকাশিত।

**PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY**

নং 172 দিশপুৰ, সোমবাৰ, 12 অক্টোবৰ 1998, 20 আহিন, 1920 (শক)  
No.172 Dispur, Monday, 12th October, 1998, 20th Asvina, 1920 (S.B.).

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

FOREST DEPARTMENT

**NOTIFICATION**

The 4th September, 1998

No.FRW-33/98/11, - In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 26 A(l) (b) of WildLife (Protection) Act, 1972 a amended upto 1991, the Governor of Assam is pleased to declare the area as described in the Schedule below to be a Sanctuary with effect from the date of publication of this Notification in the Official Gazette.

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*[Signature]*  
Advocate



1576 THE ASSAM GAZETTE, EXTRAORDINARY, OCT, 12, 1998

SCHEDULE - 'A'

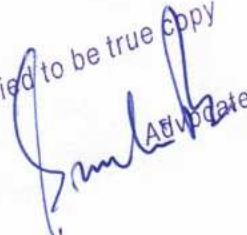
1. District (Civil)	-	Sonitpur
2. Forest Division	-	Sonitpur West Division
3. Sub-Division (Civil)	-	Tezpur
4. Circle - (Revenue)	-	Dhekiajuli
5. Mouza	-	Dhekiajuli & Missamari
6. Name of the Wildlife Sanctuary	-	Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary
7. Area	-	220 Sq. Kms. (Approx.)

SCHEDULE - 'B'

DESCRIPTION OF BOUNDARY -

1. EAST - The Eastern Boundary Starts from the left bank of Dolsiri Nalah on the boundary line between Assam - Arunachal boundary Pillar No. 5/2 and 5/3, and runs along the left bank of Dolsiri Nalah on the down stream upto the confluence of Gabhoru river, thence along the left bank of Jia-Gabhoru river it runs along down stream upto the Southern boundary of Charduar R.F.. when it touches the old Political road.
2. SOUTH - From the above point the boundary runs west Ward along the old Political road upto the left bank of Belsiri river. Thence the boundary runs along an artificial line at a bearing of 270° till it touches the right bank of Pachnoi river.
3. WEST - From this point the boundary runs along the right bank of Pachnoi river upstream till it touches the Assam-Arunachal Pradesh boundary in between B.P. No. 3/3 and 3/4.
4. NORTH - From this point the boundary runs east Ward at a bearing 149° -15' - 15" and meet boundary pillar No. 3/4 of Assam - Arunachal Pradesh Inter-State boundary. Thence the boundary runs as follows along the Inter-State boundary towards east -

<u>B.P. No.</u>	-	<u>to BP. No.</u>	Bearing (F.B)	-	<u>Distance in metres</u>
3/4		4/1	97°-59'-47"		3136.88
4/1		4/2	34°-25'-26"		2387.88
4/2		4/3	96°-10'-54"		1370.68
4/3		4/4	49°-10'-15"		2836.98

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 Advocate

THE ASSAM GAZETTE, EXTRAORDINARY, OCT 12, 1998 1577

<u>B.P.No.</u>	-	<u>to BP. No.</u>	<u>Bearing</u> <u>(F.B)</u>	-	<u>Distance in metres</u>
4/4		4/4/1	84°-33'-38"		2953.80
4/4/1		5/1	97°-10'-49"		3844.80
5/1		5/1/1	95°-10'-58"		3017.40
5/1/1		5/2	95°-10'-58"		1948.30
5/2		Left bank Of Dolsiri Nalah	85°-9'-44"		2250.00

Sd/-

HARISH SONOWAL

Commissioner & Secy. To the Govt. of Assam  
Forest Department, Dispur

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 Advocate

Minutes of <sup>the</sup> meeting held on 04.12.2006 at 5 p.m. in the office chamber of the deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur, Tezpur relating large scale felling of trees inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary and strategies to be adopted to prevent further destruction of the Forests.

*of the Committee constituted (to suggest suitable measures to prevent mass encroachment in Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary)*

Members present.

1. Sri K.L. Goswami, I.A.S., Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur, Tezpur, Chairperson.
2. Sri A.J. Barua, I.P.S., Superintendent of Police, Sonitpur, Tezpur, Member.
3. Dr. S. Singh, I.F.S., D.F.O., Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur, Member.
4. Sri H. P. Phukan, I.F.S., D.F.O., Western Assam Wildlife Division, Tezpur, Convenor.
5. Sri R. Rai, Commandant, 168 C.R.P.F. Battalion, Assam Cotton Mill, Charduar, Sonitpur

The meeting was presided over by Sri K.L. Goswami, Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur, Tezpur. Initiating the discussion the Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur has requested all the members to put their views with certain suitable strategies, which could be practicable to combat such emergent situation successfully.

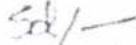
In the meeting following points were discussed and resolved.

1. The Superintendent of Police, Sonitpur has pointed out that since the sanctuary is pressurised from almost all the three sides i.e. East, West and South, it would be extremely necessary to establish at least 5 (five) nos. of permanent/semi permanent camps with sufficient armed personals of A.P.F. and A.F.P.F. very urgently to thwart any attempt of large scale felling of trees and encroachment.
2. The Divisional Forest Officer, Sonitpur west Division, Tezpur, Divisional Forest Officer, Western Assam Wildlife Division and Superintendent of Police, Sonitpur have discussed the matter and finally agreed upon to move for establishment of such camps at Kalamati, Gelgeli (Gokhani bill) Gabharu mukh and 24<sup>th</sup> mile (between Golai and foothills) with deployment of armed forces. The Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur and Commandant, 168 C.R.P.F. Battalion, Charduar have also consented the proposal.
3. It was also discussed in the meeting that the Superintendent of Police, Sonitpur will appraise the matter to the Govt. for requirement of 4 (four) nos. of companies of A.P.F. personnels and Divisional Forest Officer, Western Assam Wildlife Division will intimate his Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Assam for immediate release of fund to meet the required logistic support for the above establishment with detail plan and estimates. The Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur has pointed out that all the basic requirements to run the camps like 24 hours water facilities, Electricity and Sanitation etc. should be fulfilled without much hindrance.

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4. The Commandant, 168 C.R.P.F. Station, Charduar has pointed out that sufficient nos. of vehicles should be placed at the disposal of all the 4 (four) nos. of camps for safe and regular movement of force and supplement of rations and other requirements.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks from the chair.

  
Deputy Commissioner,  
Sonitpur, Tezpur.

\*\*\*\*

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Advocate

W.T. MESSAGE /OU

TO : D I G (N/R), TEZPUR (BY HAND) ( )  
 INFO : POLICE GUWAHATI/ADGP (L/O), GUWAHATI ( )  
 FROM : I G P (SB), GUWAHATI ( )  
 NO CBOW : DISPOL, SONITPUR ( )  
 DTD 08 12 2006 ( )

764  
 11/12/06  
 Assam Wildlife Dept.

THE PEOPLE BELONGING TO BORO COMMUNITY ARE TRYING TO ENCROACH INTO THE SONAI-RUPAI GAME SANCTUARY LOCATED IN MISSAMARI PS AREA ( ) IT IS ABOUT 220 SQ KM BUT 85 SQ KM IS ALREADY DENUDED FROM 1999-2002 ( ) IN A JOINT VISIT ALONGWITH D C, DFO WILD LIFE ETC RECENTLY WE FOUND DESTRUCTION OF FOREST IN THE SANCTUARY BY THE BOROS ( ) ON SEEING SUCH ACTIVITIES OF THE BOROS, THE NON-BOROS VIZ. ADIVASIS, NEPALEES, ASSAMESE ETC ARE ALSO TRYING TO GO FOR DESTRUCTION OF THE FOREST ( ) IN A JOINT MEETING WITH THE D C AND D F O WILD LIFE ETC ON 04-12-06 IT WAS DECIDED TO MOVE GOVT BY THE D F O FOR NECESSARY RESOURCES ETC TO SAVE THE SANCTUARY ( ) WE SHALL REQUIRE MINIMUM FOUR COYS OF ARMED FORCES TO BE DEPLOYED IMMEDIATELY FOR ABOUT A MONTH OR SO TO PUT A STOP TO SUCH EVIL DESIGN ( ) THE BOROS ARE PLANNING TO CREATE A BOROLAND BY DESTRUCTION OF FOREST ON THE NORTHERN SIDE OF ASSAM AND OCCUPY IT BY BOROS ( ) THIS KIND OF ACTIVITIES WILL CREATE TENSION IN THE SOCIETY AND COMMUNAL FLARE UP CANNOT BE RULED OUT ( ) REQUEST KINDLY TO MOVE THE AUTHORITY TO DEPLOY FOR COYS OF A P BN WITH FOUR DY SSP IMMEDIATELY FOR PUTTING A STOP ON DESTRUCTION OF THE SANCTUARY ( )

Memo No. CD/06/15234 - A

Dated Tezpur the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2006

copy to - 1) The deputy commissioner, Sonitpur, Tezpur for favour of information

2) The DFO, wild life sanctuary, Tezpur for favour of information

3) OC, WT Station, Tezpur to transmit the message please

8/12/06  
 Superintendent of Police  
 Sonitpur, Tezpur

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 Advocate

- 2 -

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, WILDLIFE,  
REHABARI, GUWAHATI-8.

107  
No. WL/FG.35/23/Sonai Rupai,

Dated, 06.03.2007.

To

The Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,  
Department of Environment & forests,  
Dispur.



Sub: Organized Mass encroachment in Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

Ref: This office letter no. WL/FG.35/23/Sonai Rupai, dt. 11.9.2006.

Sir,

In continuation to my above cited letter I would like to apprise you that the matter of destruction of forests and encroachment in the Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary and the measures to be taken to prevent further destructions as well as to restore the encroached areas was discussed threadbare today, on 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2007 at Tezpur by the Committee constituted by the Govt. of Assam, vide FRW.29/91/Pt./57, dt. 20.10.2006. It was revealed in the discussion that a large number of miscreants is clearing the remaining forests everyday. It may be mentioned that out of the total area of 220 sq. km. of the Sanctuary, an area of 85 sq. km. lies in the western side of the Missamari-Foot Hills BRTF Road, a major portion of which has been destroyed by the encroachers during the recent times. The matter was also brought to the kind attention of the Hon'ble Chief Minister during his visit to Tezpur on 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2006. Now the encroachers have crossed over to the remaining 135 sq. km. of the sanctuary lying in the eastern side of the

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*[Signature]*  
Advocate

572  
- 27 -  
Assamari-Foot Hills BRTF Road and destroying a large chunk of forests every passing day. Unless immediate measures are taken to prevent the destruction, the entire sanctuary is going to vanish in no time. The local authority has indicated that it is not at all possible for them to take any effective step with the force available at their disposal at present. After visiting the affected areas and assessing the field situations, the Police authority has opined that a minimum of 4 companies will be required to tackle the problem effectively.

Under the situation I request you to take up the matter with the Hon'ble Minister, Forests and the Hon'ble Chief Minister and to impress upon them to convene a high level meeting to discuss the problem and to give the necessary instructions to all the concerned authorities for tackling the situation at the earliest.

Your urgent response is solicited.

Yours faithfully,

*Self*

(M. C. Malakar)

Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife.

Copy for information and necessary action to:

1. The PCCF, Assam, Rehabari, Guwahati-8.
2. The Conservator of Forests, Northern Assam Circle, Tezpur.
3. The Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur, Tezpur.
4. The Supdt. Of Police, Sonitpur, Tezpur.
- ✓ 5. The DFO, Western Assam Wildlife Division, Dolabari, Tezpur.
6. The DFO, Sonitpur West Divn, Tezpur.

*6/3/07*  
Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife.

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*[Signature]*  
Advocate

573  
GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, SONITPUR, TEZPUR  
MAGISTRACY BRANCH

- 2/8 -

SMJ.1/2005/

Dated Tezpur the

August / 2007

ORDER  
U/S 144 Cr. P. C.

Whereas different groups of unscrupulous people have been clearing the forest and breaking the land, collecting and carrying the boulders and timber (including firewood) in vehicles ( thelas, trucks, vans, boats etc.) from the forest area located between Pachnoi River on the West and Gabharu River on the East and bounded by Jia-Gabharu-Kalamati-Golai-Jingabil road on the South ( Known as Sonitpur-Kameng Elephant Reserve ) with a view to encroach it.

Whereas the aforesaid activities have been causing degradation of the habitat and corridor of Assam Elephant and other wildlife in the Sonitpur-Kameng Elephant Reserve, and straying of elephants from forest areas into the area of human habitation.

Whereas, these kind activities have been causing disturbance to the wild animal in areas and have given rise to human elephant conflict.

Whereas clearing of forest and its subsequent encroachment by different groups of unscrupulous people would likely to cause inter-group conflicts and disturb the peace and tranquility of the area.

And whereas I am satisfied that in the interest of protection of forest, wild life habitate and prevention of inter-group clash, it is expedient to prevent the aforesaid clearing of forest and its subsequent encroachment and collection and carriage of the boulders and timber ( including firewood ).

Therefore, I, Shri. K. Goswami, ACS, District Magistrate, Sonitpur, in exercise of the powers conferred upon me under sec 144 of Cr.P.C., 1973 (amended) do hereby prohibit the following in the aforesaid area:

- (a) Entry into the aforesaid area by any unauthorized person without the requisite permission.
- (b) Carrying of lethal weapons like swords, dao, bows and arrows and any kind of firearms and timber-cutting tools like axe, saw, motorized saw etc.
- (c) Assembly of more than five persons.
- (d) Entry of vehicles (except the vehicles of Arunachal Pradesh using Kalamati-Foothills road)

The vehicles of Army, Police, Paramilitary forces, civil administration and Forest Department shall be exempted from this order.

This order will come into force with immediate effect thorough out the district of Sonitpur and will remain in force up to 30<sup>th</sup> October / 2007.

Given under my hand and seal this day of 30<sup>th</sup> August / 2007.

Sd/-  
District Magistrate  
Sonitpur :: Tezpur

Contd. 2

Memo. B/WANL/gent./ Sonai-Rupai/07/1193

dt 5/9 /07

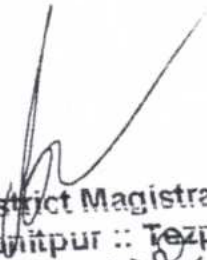
Copy to:- The Forest Ranger I/c Kalamati W.L. Beat, Kalamati

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Advocate

Memo No. SMJ.1/2005/ 1648 (A) Dated Tezpur the 30<sup>th</sup> August / 2007  
Copy for information and necessary action to :

1. The Commissioner, North Assam Division, Sonitpur, Tezpur.
2. The Supdt. of Police, Sonitpur, Tezpur.
3. The Divisional Forest Officer, Western Assam Wild Life Divn., Dolabari, Tezpur.
4. The Divisional Forest Officer, East Division, Biswanath Charali.
5. The Divisional Forest Officer, West Division, Tezpur.
6. All Addl. District Magistrate, Sonitpur, Tezpur.
7. All Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Tezpur, Biswanath, & Gohpur.
8. The D.I.P.R.O. Tezpur for wide publicity.
9. O/C All Police Station, Sonitpur.
10. D.M's Bungalow Office, Tezpur.

  
District Magistrate  
Sonitpur :: Tezpur

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Advocate

575  
Typed copy

- 40 -

Copy of Letter No. A/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2014/529-531 dtd. 29-12-2014 of the  
Divisional Forest Officer, Western Assam Wildlife Division, Dolabari, Tezpur



GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER  
WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION, DOLABARI, TEZPUR

Phone: 0371-2268054 (Tel/Fax)

Email: [dro.wawl@gmail.com](mailto:dro.wawl@gmail.com)

No. A/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2014/529-531

Date: 29/12/2014

To,

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Assam  
Basishta, Guwahati – 29

**Sub: Threats of massive tree felling and encroachment inside Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary and the measures to be adopted.**

- Ref: 1. This office letter No. A/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2014/168-169 Dt: 12/05/2014  
2. This office letter No. A/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2014/172-173 Dt: 15/05/2014  
3. This office letter No. A/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2014/186-187 Dt: 27/05/2014  
4. This office letter No. A/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2014/480-481 Dt: 22/11/2014  
5. This office letter No. A/WAWL/General File AFPP/2014/508-511 Dt: 26/12/2014

Sir,

With reference to the above-mentioned subject, I have the honour to inform you that owing to the poor law & order situation, lack of sufficient field staff in various anti-poaching camps, inadequate fund release and district administration apathy, the Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary is facing the grave danger to its very existence. The following events that took place during the current year will corroborate the aforesaid observation.

1. On 1st May 2014, a crowd of more than 300 people armed with lethal weapons like dao, axe, bow & arrows etc attacked the Range office of Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. Taken by surprise, our forest staff had to fire in the air to disperse the violent mob. A woman from the mob got injured and a young man suffered fatal injury during the scuffle with forest staff. The mob had descended on the Range office to teach a lesson to the Range office staff for removing an illegal earthen dam constructed by encroachers for diverting water from inside the sanctuary to the encroached area. The district administration taking a myopic view of the entire incident not only supported the encroachers but also publicly humiliated our staff by arresting the Range officer and a AFPP staff in clear violation of guidelines laid down by the Government of Assam. Although with intervention of the Court we managed to get the Range officer and staff released from the jail the same day, a message has gone to the encroachers of forest land that no matter whatever illegal activities they do, the district administration will not take action against them. In the lattermath of arrest of our staff, a large number of trees

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Advocate

were felled by the encroachers as our staff were scared of violent retaliation from the miscreants. This unfortunate development has demoralized our field staff and they are unable to take strong steps fearing the arrest and public humiliation from the district administration for doing their assigned duties.

2. Following the firing incident, we made sincere efforts to contain the tree felling inside the sanctuary by temporarily bringing in the staff and AFPF from Nameri Wildlife Range. Written requests were also made by the undersigned for increasing the field staff and AFPF numbers in Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary but nothing much happened.
3. Despite the demoralizing incident of 1<sup>st</sup> May, poor staff strength (currently there are 30 permanent staff, 5 AFPF personnel, including Range officer in 10 anti-poaching camps and Range office) and an insignificant fund outlay (Rs. 11.2 lakh only has been released so far in the current year for the entire division) the undersigned is ensuring that routine patrolling activities are performed by our field staff inside the sanctuary. In the last 3 years, we have registered a total of 39 cases and arrested 60 miscreants involved in various illegalities like poaching, fishing and tree felling etc. However, these ad-hoc cannot measures cannot ensure the survival of forest and wildlife of the sanctuary in the long-term unless some important measures like increasing staff strength, increasing fund flow and support from the district administration for dealing with mob violence are implemented.
4. On 21<sup>st</sup> Nov the field staff during their routine patrolling duty came across timber smugglers and arrested two individuals along with timber loaded bicycles. The accused were produced before the Court and kept under judicial custody. While Range officer and his staff were busy in doing paper works at Tezpur, some miscreants from the nearby villages went to the Kamengbari camp and physically assaulted Home guards who were present in the camp. The miscreants warned that if the bicycles and arrested individuals are not returned they will kill the staff and burn down the Kamengbari camp. The matter was duly reported to the local Police but no visible action happened on the ground. The matter was conveyed to your good self over the phone and a temporary arrangement for deployment of 6 AFPF staff was made. Similarly, the incident was brought to the notice of Deputy Commissioner Sonitpur but no action was taken from his end.
5. In spite of the possibility of physical assault by miscreants, the Range officer and field staffs have been continuing their patrolling duties. As a result, on 18th December 2014 our staff came across five individuals with bicycles in Kamengbari - Lakhigat area. While the miscreants managed to escape from the scene, our field staff seized those bicycles and brought them to Gelgeli forest camp. In this regard, an offense has been registered at Range level.

However, on 19<sup>th</sup> Dec evening a mob of around 40 people (comprising of both male and female members) had come to the Gelgeli camp to take away the seized bicycles. Similar to the incident of 21<sup>st</sup> Nov, the mob threatened to burn down the camp and kill the staff if the bicycles are not returned to them by 12 noon the next day at Kamengbari. After giving this threat, the mob moved towards Kamengbari camp area. The thing of concern is that miscreants had entered deep inside the forest to threaten our field staff. They are not only threatening forest staff of fringe area camps but also the staff of interior most camps.

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 Advocate

Taking into consideration factors like lack of sufficient staff strength, lack of funds and the possibility of further demoralizing effect on staff, it was decided to return the bicycles after taking suitable undertaking from the parties concerned. Accordingly, on 20<sup>th</sup> Nov, bicycles were returned so that our staff residing in the interior camps are not harmed in any way.

6. Meanwhile, the law & order situation has continued to deteriorate further. On 20<sup>th</sup> Dec, an encounter took place between Police and NDFB cadres at Karki centre (close to Kalamati Range office) resulting in death of two militants. In the subsequent killing of civilians of the district by NDFB, the situation in and around the sanctuary has become even more volatile. There is an apprehension that when the NDFB had not spared even civilians during their killing spree what will happen to our field staff who stay in some of the remote forest camps of the sanctuary as there is a possibility that forest staff may become sitting duck for militants. Amidst all these developments, a section of AFPF deployed at Kalamati Range was withdrawn by the Commandant without even giving any kind of intimation to the undersigned. In fact, the way the AFPF was withdrawn from Kalamati at very early in the morning at about 4:30 AM with no intimation whatsoever to the DFO of the division has made mockery of the administrative hierarchy.
7. Again on 28<sup>th</sup> Dec, our field staff while undertaking patrolling towards Kamengbari - foothill area came across illegal-doers with 13 timber loaded bicycles. The miscreants upon encountering field staff fled away leaving behind the bicycles and timbers. Our staff managed to load bicycles and timber into the department vehicle and when they were crossing Kamengbari camp area, the main Kalamati - foothill road was blocked by mob of around 50 people. Not the only the mob obstructed the field staff from doing their duty but also threatened with live grenades. By threatening with explosion of live grenades the mob managed to forcefully take away all the 13 bicycles from our departmental vehicle. Further, the staff has been warned by the mob not to bring the department vehicles for patrolling towards Kamengbari.
8. From the above-mentioned points, it is clear that the sanctuary is facing tremendous pressure on the existing forest and wildlife. Further, from the multiple incidents it is also evident that the miscreants are acting in unison to intimidate our field staff who are fewer in number in comparison, to make the staff ineffective in their duties so that they can continue to destroy the remaining forest without any disturbance from the forest staff. Some of the senior officers who served in this area earlier also opine that a similar strategy was adopted by the encroachers in the past and ended up grabbing nearly 85 sq km of the sanctuary land.

In view of the imminent threats of encroachment and massive tree felling faced by the sanctuary the undersigned would request the competent authority for implementing the following measures at the earliest possible:

- Increase the staff strength from the current 30 staff to at least 60 staff.
- Allot at least 4-5 sections of AFPF for deployment in various sensitive locations of the sanctuary.
- Release the funds sanctioned under 'Development of National Park and Sanctuary' and 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitat' without any further delay as it will help in making payment of home guard wages, maintain patrolling paths and other infrastructure of the sanctuary.

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- Declare Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary as satellite core of Nameri Tiger Reserve at the earliest possible since technical approval from National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) and State Board for Wildlife has already been obtained. This move will help the sanctuary in augmenting its physical and financial resources with the funding support from NTCA.
- Implementing joint patrolling with Police/ paramilitary forces inside the sanctuary.
- Deployment of paramilitary force at Kamengbari area as it is worst affected in terms of tree felling and the possibility of encroachment is high in this part of the sanctuary.

Submitted for your kind information and necessary action please.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-  
(R.G. Garawad)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division

Copy for favour of kind information and necessary action please:

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest & Head of Forest Force, Assam Rehabari, Guwahati - 8.
2. Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam, Department of Environment & Forest, Dispur, Guwahati.

Sd/-  
(R.G. Garawad)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division

Certified to be true copy  
*[Signature]*  
Advocate



GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER,  
WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION, DOLABARI, TEZPUR

Phone: 0371-2268054 (Tel/Fax)

Email: dfo.wawl@gmail.com

No. A/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2014/529-531

Date: 29/12/2014

To,

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Assam  
Basishta, Guwahati - 29

**Sub: Threats of massive tree felling and encroachment inside Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary and the measures to be adopted.**

- Ref:
1. This office letter No. A/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2014/168-169 Dt: 12/05/2014
  2. This office letter No. A/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2014/172-173 Dt: 15/05/2014
  3. This office letter No. A/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2014/186-187 Dt: 27/05/2014
  4. This office letter No. A/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2014/480-481 Dt: 22/11/2014
  5. This office letter No. A/WAWL/General File AFPP /2014/508-511 Dt: 26/12/2014

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1. On 1st May 2014, a crowd of more than 300 people armed with lethal weapons like dao, axe, bow & arrows etc attacked the Range office of Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. Taken by surprise, our forest staff had to fire in the air to disperse the violent mob. A woman from the mob got injured and a young man suffered fatal injury during the scuffle with forest staff. The mob had descended on the Range office to teach a lesson to the Range office staff for removing an illegal earthen dam constructed by encroachers for diverting water from inside the sanctuary to the encroached area.

The district administration taking a myopic view of the entire incident not only supported the encroachers but also publicly humiliated our staff by arresting the Range officer and a AFPP staff in clear violation of guidelines laid down by the Government of Assam. Although with intervention of the Court we managed to get the Range officer and staff released from the jail the same day, a message has gone to the encroachers of forest land that no matter whatever illegal activities they do, the district administration will not take action against them. In the aftermath of arrest of our staff, a large number of trees were felled by the encroachers as our staff were scared of violent retaliation from the miscreants. This unfortunate development has demoralized our field staff and they are unable to take strong steps fearing the arrest and public humiliation from the district administration for doing their assigned duties.

2. Following the firing incident, we made sincere efforts to contain the tree felling inside the sanctuary by temporarily bringing in the staff and AFPP from Nameri Wildlife Range. Written requests were also made by the undersigned for increasing the staff.

Certified to be true copy

*Sankar*  
Advocate

staff and AFPF numbers in Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary but nothing much happened.

3. Despite the demoralizing incident of 1<sup>st</sup> May, poor staff strength (currently there are 30 permanent staff, 5 AFPF personnel, including Range officer in 10 anti-poaching camps and Range office) and an insignificant fund outlay (Rs 11.2 lakh only has been released so far in the current year for the entire division) the undersigned is ensuring that routine patrolling activities are performed by our field staff inside the sanctuary. In the last 3 years, we have registered a total of 39 cases and arrested 60 miscreants involved in various illegalities like poaching, fishing and tree felling etc. However, these ad-hoc cannot measures cannot ensure the survival of forest and wildlife of the sanctuary in the long-term unless some important measures like increasing staff strength, increasing fund flow and support from the district administration for dealing with mob violence are implemented.
4. On 21<sup>st</sup> Nov the field staff during their routine patrolling duty came across timber smugglers and arrested two individuals along with timber loaded bicycles. The accused were produced before the Court and kept under judicial custody. While Range officer and his staff were busy in doing paper works at Tezpur, some miscreants from the nearby villages went to the Kamengbari camp and physically assaulted Home guards who were present in the camp. The miscreants warned that if the bicycles and arrested individuals are not returned they will kill the staff and burn down the Kamengbari camp. The matter was duly reported to the local Police but no visible action happened on the ground. The matter was conveyed to your good self over the phone and a temporary arrangement for deployment of 6 AFPF staff was made. Similarly, the incident was brought to the notice of Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur but no action was taken from his end.
5. In spite of the possibility of physical assault by miscreants, the Range officer and field staffs have been continuing their patrolling duties. As a result, on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2014 our staff came across five individuals with bicycles in Kamengbari - Lakhigat area. While the miscreants managed to escape from the scene, our field staff seized those bicycles and brought them to Gelgeli forest camp. In this regard, an offense has been registered at Range level.

However, on 19<sup>th</sup> Dec evening a mob of around 40 people (comprising of both male and female members) had come to the Gelgeli camp to take away the seized bicycles. Similar to the incident of 21<sup>st</sup> Nov, the mob threatened to burn down the camp and kill the staff if the bicycles are not returned to them by 12 noon the next day at Kamengbari. After giving this threat the mob moved towards Kamengbari camp area. The thing of concern is that miscreants had entered deep inside the forest to threaten our field staff. They are not only threatening forest staff of fringe area camps but also the staff of interior most camps.

Taking into consideration factors like lack of sufficient staff strength, lack of funds and the possibility of further demoralizing effect on staff, it was decided to return the bicycles after taking suitable undertaking from the parties concerned. Accordingly, on 20<sup>th</sup> Nov, bicycles were returned so that our staff residing in the interior camps are not harmed in any way.

6. Meanwhile, the law & order situation has continued to deteriorate further. On 20<sup>th</sup> Dec, an encounter took place between Police and NDFB cadres at Karki centre (close to Kalamati Range office) resulting in death of two militants. In the subsequent killing of civilians of the district by NDFB, the situation in and around the sanctuary has become even more volatile. There is an apprehension that when the NDFB had not spared even civilians during their killing spree what will happen to our field staff who stay in some of the remote forest camps of the sanctuary as there is a possibility that forest staff may become sitting duck for militants. Amidst all these developments, a section of AFPF deployed at Kalamati Range was withdrawn by the Commandant

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-48-

without even giving any kind of intimation to the undersigned. In fact, the AFPP was withdrawn from Kalamati at very early in the morning at about 4.30 AM with no intimation whatsoever to the DFO of the division has made mockery of the administrative hierarchy.

7. Again on 28<sup>th</sup> Dec, our field staff while undertaking patrolling towards Kamengbari - foothill area came across illegal-doers with 13 timber loaded bicycles. The miscreants upon encountering field staff fled away leaving behind the bicycles and timber. Our staff managed to load bicycles and timber into the department vehicle and while they were crossing Kamengbari camp area, the main Kalamati - foothill road was blocked by mob of around 50 people. Not only the mob obstructed the field staff from doing their duty but also threatened with live grenades. By threatening with explosion of live grenades the mob managed to forcefully take away all the 13 bicycles from our departmental vehicle. Further, the staff has been warned by the mob not to use the department vehicles for patrolling towards Kamengbari.
8. From the above-mentioned points, it is clear that the sanctuary is facing tremendous pressure on the existing forest and wildlife. Further, from the multiple incidents it is also evident that the miscreants are acting in unison to intimidate our field staff who are fewer in number in comparison, to make the staff ineffective in their duties so that they can continue to destroy the remaining forest without any disturbance to the forest staff. Some of the senior officers who served in this area earlier also opined that a similar strategy was adopted by the encroachers in the past and ended up losing nearly 85 sq km of the sanctuary land.

In view of the imminent threats of encroachment and massive tree felling facing the sanctuary the undersigned would request the competent authority for implementation of the following measures at the earliest possible :

- Increase the staff strength from the current 30 staff to at least 60 staff.
- Allot at least 4-5 sections of AFPP for deployment in various sensitive locations in the sanctuary.
- Release the funds sanctioned under 'Development of National Park and Sanctuaries and Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitat' without any further delay as it will help in making payment of home guard wages, maintain patrolling paths and other infrastructure of the sanctuary.
- Declare Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary as satellite core of Nameri Tiger Reserve at the earliest possible since technical approval from National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) and State Board for Wildlife has already been obtained. This will help the sanctuary in augmenting its physical and financial resources through funding support from NTCA.
- Implementing joint patrolling with Police/ paramilitary forces inside the sanctuary.
- Deployment of paramilitary force at Kamengbari area as it is worst affected in terms of tree felling and the possibility of encroachment is high in this part of the sanctuary.


Submitted for your kind information and necessary action please.

Yours faithfully,



(R.G. Garawad)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division

Certified to be true copy



Advocate

- 27 -  
X

Copy for favour of kind information and necessary action please:

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force Assam, Rehahari, Guwahati - 8.
2. Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam, Department of Environment & Forest, Dispur, Guwahati.



(R.C. Garawad)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division

Certified to be true copy

  
Advocate

COPY OF GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION No. FRM.236/2014/23 DATED 18<sup>th</sup> June,2015 ISSUED BY ADDL. CHIEF  
SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF ASSAM, ENVIRONMENT & FOREST DEPARTMENT

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST DEPARTMENT  
DISPUR: GUWAHATI.

ORDER BY THE GOVERNOR  
OF ASSAM

NOTIFICATION

Dated Dispur, the 18<sup>th</sup> June,2015

No. FRM.236/2014/23: In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 38 V (1) of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 as amended upto 2010, the Governor of Assam is pleased to declare the area as described in the Schedule below to be a satellite core of 'Nameri Tiger Reserve' with effect from the date of publication of this Notification in the Official Gazette.

THE ASSAM GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY OCT 2014.

SCHEDULE-'A'

1. District (Civil)	-	Sonitpur
2. Forest Division	-	Western Assam Wildlife Division.
3. Sub-Division (Civil)	-	Tezpur
4. Circle-(Revenue)	-	Dhekiajuli
5. Mouza	-	Dhekiajuli & Missamari
6. Name of the PA	-	Sonai Rupai satellite core Wildlife Sanctuary
7. Area	-	120 Sq. Km (Approx).

SCHEDULE- 'B'

DESCRIPTION OF BOUNDARY-

1. EAST- The Eastern Boundary Starts from the left bank of Gabharu Nadi on the interstate boundary line between Assam - Arunachal and runs along the left bank of Gabharu nadi on the down stream upto the confluence of Gelgeli nadi, thence along the left bank of Jia-Gabharu river it runs along down stream upto the Southern boundary of Charduar R.F. when it touches the old Political Road.
2. SOUTH- From the above point the boundary runs west ward along the old Political road (excluding the area under Army occupation) upto the left bank of Belsiri river.
3. WEST- From the left bank of Belsiri river, the boundary runs along old Political road till it touches the interstate boundary at foothills between the BP 128 and 129.
4. NORTH- From this point the boundary runs east ward along Inter-State boundary. The GPS coordinates of the boundary are as given below.


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*[Signature]*  
Advocate

-49-

SL No	Longitude	Latitude	SL No	Longitude	Latitude
1	92.544	26.959	43	92.556	26.867
2	92.542	26.955	44	92.555	26.865
3	92.542	26.950	45	92.555	26.864
4	92.542	26.946	46	92.549	26.863
5	92.545	26.940	47	92.534	26.863
6	92.550	26.940	48	92.526	26.863
7	92.553	26.936	49	92.516	26.863
8	92.557	26.933	50	92.502	26.863
9	92.557	26.928	51	92.498	26.864
10	92.554	26.926	52	92.494	26.867
11	92.557	26.923	53	92.491	26.871
12	92.560	26.921	54	92.489	26.874
13	92.558	26.917	55	92.487	26.877
14	92.557	26.912	56	92.480	26.883
15	92.554	26.906	57	92.476	26.886
16	92.552	26.904	58	92.474	26.890
17	92.553	26.903	59	92.470	26.893
18	92.558	26.900	60	92.466	26.896
19	92.562	26.899	61	92.460	26.901
20	92.562	26.895	62	92.453	26.908
21	92.563	26.893	63	92.452	26.910
22	92.570	26.892	64	92.447	26.914
23	92.577	26.889	65	92.444	26.916
24	92.582	26.885	66	92.435	26.925
25	92.582	26.883	67	92.431	26.929
26	92.581	26.882	68	92.430	26.929
27	92.583	26.880	69	92.427	26.933
28	92.582	26.878	70	92.425	26.937
29	92.585	26.874	71	92.424	26.941
30	92.588	26.871	72	92.429	26.941
31	92.592	26.868	73	92.437	26.948
32	92.595	26.862	74	92.446	26.955
33	92.590	26.862	75	92.450	26.959
34	92.581	26.863	76	92.470	26.961
35	92.577	26.866	77	92.489	26.962
36	92.573	26.864	78	92.496	26.963
37	92.571	26.865	79	92.506	26.963
38	92.570	26.866	80	92.527	26.960
39	92.566	26.867	81	92.532	26.959
40	92.562	26.867	82	92.541	26.959
41	92.560	26.868	83	92.541	26.959
42	92.558	26.869	84	92.544	26.959

Sd/- D.Kumar, IAS

Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam  
Environment and Forest Department.Certified to be true copy  
  
Advocate



Memo No. FRM.236/2014/23-A

Dated Dispur, the 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2015

Copy to :-

1. The Joint Director, Project Tiger, Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment and Forest Department. Annex No.5. Bikiner House, Shajahan Road, New Delhi-110011.
2. The PS to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam, Dispur for information of the Hon'ble Chief Minister.
3. The PS to Hon'ble Minister. Environment and Forest Department, Assam, for information of the Hon'ble Minister, Environment and Forest Department.
4. The PS to Hon'ble Minister of State Forest, Assam for information of the Hon'ble Minister of State Forests.
5. The PS to Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam for information of the Chief Secretary.
6. The PS to Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Environment and Forest Department.
7. The Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Revenue Department, Dispur.
8. The PS to the Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Environment and Forest Department.
9. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Assam, Rehabari, Guwahati-8 for circulation to all concerned
10. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Social Forestry), Assam, Guwahati-24.
11. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Territorial), Assam, Pan bazar, Guwahati-1.
12. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Assam, Rehabari, Guwahati-8.
13. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Re & WP), Assam, Guwahati-24.
14. The Deputy Commissioner. Sonitpur for information and necessary action.
15. The Conservator of Forests. Northern, Assam Circle, Tezpur.
16. All Concerned Conservator of Forests.
17. The Divisional Forest Officer Concerned.
18. The Deputy Director, Assam, Assam Government Press, Bamunimaidam, Guwahati- 21 for publication of the above Notification in the Assam Gazette extra ordinary.

By order etc.,

**Sd/-**

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Assam  
Environment and Forest Department

Certified to be true copy  
  
Advocate

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST DEPARTMENT  
DISPUR, GUWAHATI

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR  
OF ASSAM

NOTIFICATION

Dated Dispur, the 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2015

No. FRM 56/2014/23. In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 38 V (1) of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 as amended upto 2010, the Governor of Assam is pleased to declare the area as described in the Schedule below to be a satellite core of 'Nameri Tiger Reserve' with effect from the date of publication of this Notification in the Official Gazette

THE ASSAM GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY OCT 2014

SCHEDULE 'A'

1 District (Civil)	Sompur
2 Forest Division	Western Assam Wildlife Division
3 Sub-Division (Civil)	Tezpur
4 Circle (Revenue)	Dhekali
5 Mouza	Dhekali & Missamari
6 Name of the PA	Sompur satellite core Wildlife Sanctuary
7 Area	120 Sq. Km (Approx).

SCHEDULE 'B'

DESCRIPTION OF BOUNDARY:

- EAST-** The Eastern Boundary Starts from the left bank of Gabharu Nadi on the inter-state boundary line between Assam - Arunachal and runs along the left bank of Gabharu nadi on the down stream upto the confluence of Gelgeh nadi, thence along the left bank of Jia-Gabharu river it runs along down stream upto the Southern boundary of Charduar R.F. when it touches the old Political Road
- SOUTH-** From the above point the boundary runs west ward along the old Political road (excluding the area under Army occupation) upto the left bank of Belsiri river
- WEST-** From the left bank of Belsiri river, the boundary runs along old Political road till it touches the inter-state boundary at foothills between the BP 128 and 129
- NORTH-** From this point the boundary runs east ward along Inter-State boundary. The GPS coordinates of the boundary are as given below

Certified to be true

  
Advocate

- SX -

Sl No	Longitude	Latitude	Sl No	Longitude	Latitude
1	92 544	26 950	43	92 556	26 867
2	92 542	26 955	44	92 555	26 865
3	92 542	26 950	45	92 555	26 864
4	92 542	26 945	46	92 549	26 863
5	92 545	26 940	47	92 534	26 863
6	92 550	26 940	48	92 526	26 853
7	92 553	26 936	49	92 516	26 853
8	92 557	26 932	50	92 502	26 853
9	92 557	26 928	51	92 493	26 864
10	92 554	26 926	52	92 494	26 867
11	92 557	26 923	53	92 491	26 871
12	92 560	26 921	54	92 489	26 874
13	92 558	26 917	55	92 487	26 877
14	92 557	26 912	56	92 480	26 883
15	92 554	26 906	57	92 476	26 886
16	92 552	26 904	58	92 474	26 890
17	92 553	26 903	59	92 470	26 893
18	92 558	26 900	60	92 466	26 895
19	92 562	26 899	61	92 460	26 901
20	92 562	26 895	62	92 453	26 905
21	92 563	26 893	63	92 452	26 910
22	92 570	26 892	64	92 447	26 914
23	92 577	26 889	65	92 444	26 916
24	92 582	26 885	66	92 435	26 925
25	92 582	26 883	67	92 431	26 929
26	92 581	26 882	68	92 430	26 930
27	92 583	26 880	69	92 427	26 930
28	92 582	26 878	70	92 425	26 937
29	92 585	26 874	71	92 424	26 941
30	92 589	26 871	72	92 429	26 941
31	92 592	26 868	73	92 437	26 945
32	92 595	26 862	74	92 445	26 955
33	92 590	26 862	75	92 450	26 958
34	92 581	26 863	76	92 470	26 961
35	92 577	26 866	77	92 459	26 962
36	92 573	26 864	78	92 456	26 963
37	92 571	26 865	79	92 506	26 933
38	92 570	26 866	80	92 527	26 930
39	92 566	26 867	81	92 532	26 959
40	92 562	26 867	82	92 541	26 959
41	92 550	26 868	83	92 541	26 959
42	92 558	26 869	84	92 544	26 954

Sd/- D. Kumar, AS  
 Joint Secretary to B. Govt. of Assam  
 Environment and Forest Department.

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 Advocate



Memo No. FRI/246/2014-25-3  
Page No.

Dated Disput. the 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2015

1. The Joint Director, Project Tiger, Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment and Forest Department, Annex No. 1, Vikram House, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi-110011
2. The PS to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam, Disput for information of the Hon'ble Chief Minister
3. The PS to Hon'ble Minister, Environment and Forest Department, Assam, for information of the Hon'ble Minister, Environment and Forest Department.
4. The PS to Hon'ble Minister of State Forests, Assam for information of the Hon'ble Minister of State Forests
5. The PS to Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam for information of the Chief Secretary
6. The PS to Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Environment and Forest Department
7. The Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Revenue Department, Disput.
8. The PS to the Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Environment and Forest Department
9. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Assam, Rehabari, Guwahati-8 for circulation to all concerned
10. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Social Forestry), Assam, Guwahati-24
11. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Territorial), Assam, Lambazar, Guwahati-1
12. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Assam, Rehabari, Guwahati-8
13. The Chief Conservator of Forests (H & W), Assam, Guwahati-24
14. The Deputy Commissioner, Soubpur for information and necessary action
15. The Conservator of Forests, Northern, Assam Circle, L. pur.
16. All Concerned Conservator of Forests.
17. The Divisional Forest Officer Concerned
18. The Deputy Director, Assam, Assam Government Press - Bamunimadam, Guwahati-21 for publication of the above Notification in the Assam - Gazette extra ordinary.

By order etc .

*N. B. Chel*  
Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Assam  
Environment and Forest Department

Certified to be true copy

*Sanku B*  
Advocate

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Translated copy

- SX -

Date: 16/12/2010

To,

The Divisional Forest Officer (Wildlife)  
Sonitpur West Forest Division, Dolabari,  
Sonitpur, Tezpur.

Ref: Known from Letter no. SSA/S/Esstt/RTI/107/2009/1172 dtd. 07/12/2010

Sub: Regarding construction of Government School inside Sonai- Rupai WLS and Charduar Reserved Forest.

Sir,

Most respectfully I want to state that under RTI Act, 2005, Assam Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Mission has provided some data. According to this data, inside Sonai- Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary and Chariduar Reserved Forest, Assam Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Mission is constructing 40 (Forty) numbers of schools for the sake of encroachers of the forest area by spending at average of Rs. 07 (seven) lakhs per school. Public is not aware about the fact that under whose permission Assam Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Mission got provision to construct school inside the forest area.


So, it is a request to you Sir that please investigate the matter and take appropriate measure to provide safeguard to forest area and also a sincere prayer to give stringent punishment to the violators of Wildlife Act.

Yours faithfully,

Dilip Nath  
Vill: Pachnoi, P.O.  
Hugrajuli  
Dist: Sonitpur, PIN-  
784507  
Ph: 9864407448

Copy sent to:

1. Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam
2. Ms. Maneka Gandhi, Animal Care
3. Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur
4. Hon'ble DFO, Wildlife, Sonitpur West Forest Division
5. Hon'ble DFO, Social Forestry, Sonitpur West Forest Division.

Certified to be true copy  
  
Advocate

18/12/10

তাৰিখ ১৬-১২-২০১০

চিঠি নং DH-SSA-SRA-122

~~SS~~মাননীয় অসম সংসদৰ প্ৰাধিকাৰী বিষয়া (সন) প্ৰানীপশ্চিম শোণিতপুৰ বন সংমণ্ডল - হোলাগাৰী - হেজপুৰ - কোণিতপুৰ

প্ৰসংগ: Letter No: SSA/S/Esst/RTI/107/2009/1172 dated- 07/12/2010 মৰ্মে অৱগত-

বিষয়: সোনাই-ৰূপাই অভয়াৰণ্য আৰু চাবিদুৱাৰ বনাঞ্চলৰ মাজত চৰকাৰী বিদ্যালয় নিৰ্মাণ

সংসং:

মহানীয়,

বিনীত নিবেদন এয়ে যে-তথ্য জনাৰ অধিকাৰ আইন'০৫ অধিনিয়মত অসম সৰ্বনিষ্কা অভিযান মিছনে কিছু তথ্য যোগান ধৰে। এই তথ্য অনুসৰি সোনাই-ৰূপাই অভয়াৰণ্য আৰু চাবিদুৱাৰ বনাঞ্চলৰ অন্তৰ্গত ভূমিত অসম সৰ্বনিষ্কা অভিযান মিছনে বেদখলকাৰীৰ প্ৰয়োজন পূৰণৰ স্বার্থত ৪০ (চল্লিছ) বন বিদ্যালয়ৰ গৃহ নিৰ্মাণ কৰে গড়ে প্রতি সাত লাখ খৰচ কৰি নিৰ্মাণ কৰ্ম চলাই আছে। এনেদৰে বনাঞ্চল অধ্যুষিত ভূমিত কেনেদৰে/কোন বিভাগৰ অনুমতি লৈ সৰ্বনিষ্কা মিছনে বিদ্যালয় নিৰ্মাণ কৰাৰ সুবিধা পালে সেই বিষয়ে সৰ্বসাধাৰণ অজ্ঞাত।

গতিকে মহোদয়ে, বিষয়টি অনুসন্ধান কৰি তৎকালে বিহিত ব্যৱস্থা লৈ বনভূমিক নিৰাপত্তা দিয়াৰ লগতে অভয়াৰণ্যৰ আইন উলংঘা কাৰীক কঠোৰ শাস্তি প্ৰদান কৰিবলৈ বিনম্ৰ গোহাৰি জনায়ো।

প্ৰতিজ্ঞা প্ৰেৰণ কৰা হৈছে

- (১) মাননীয় মুখ্যমন্ত্ৰী, অসম।
- (২) শ্ৰী মন্ত্ৰী মেনকা পাতী, Animal Care
- (৩) মাননীয় উপায়ুক্ত মহোদয়, শোণিতপুৰ।
- (৪) মাননীয় ৰাজ্য চৰকাৰ বিষয়া, চেকিয়াজুলি
- (৫) মাননীয় জিলা বন প্ৰাধিকাৰী বিষয়া, হাইল্ড লাইফ, পশ্চিম শোণিতপুৰ বন সংমণ্ডল।
- (৬) মাননীয় জিলা বন প্ৰাধিকাৰী বিষয়া, সামাজিক, পশ্চিম শোণিতপুৰ বন সংমণ্ডল।

ইতি

ভৱদীয়

দিলীপ নাথ


২৬/১২/২০১০

শ্ৰী দিলীপ নাথ

গাঁও-পাঁচনৈ, ডাক-হথাজুলি

জিলা-শোণিতপুৰ, পিন-৭৮৪৫০৭

দুৰভাষ-৯৮৬৪৪০৭৪৪৮

Certified to be true copy  
  
 Advocate

591

GOVT. OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER  
WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION  
DOLABARI, TEZPUR

Dated: 27.12.10

B/WAWL/Sonai Rupai/2010/ 1297 - 99

The District Mission Co-ordinator,  
Axom Sarba Shiksha Abhiyan, Mission,  
District Sonitpur.

Sub: Construction of L.P. Schools inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary  
Ref: Your office letter No. DSA/S/Esstt./RTI/107/2009/172 dated. 7.12.10.

Sir,  
It has been brought to the notice of this office that your office has constructed forty L.P. Schools inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary and Charduar Reserve Forest. Construction of a School inside Wildlife Sanctuary amounts to "Non-forestry" activity under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 (amended). Even Govt. agencies are liable for prosecution for violation of provisions of aforesaid Act. This office would like to know whether mandatory prior permission of Govt. of India was obtained before the construction work. Further the name of officer (along with designation) who moved the proposal for locating the schools inside Wildlife Sanctuary and the person who granted approval to the proposal should be furnished to this office. A copy of the proposal as submitted and as approved should be furnished to this office immediately without fail.

The matter is serious and should be given priority at your end. Further all the construction work must be stopped immediately.

Yours Sincerely



(S P Vashis  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division  
Dolabar

Copy to:

1. The Deputy Commissioner, District Sonitpur for information.
2. The Director, Sarba Siksha Abhiyan, Guwahati for information.

(S P Vashis  
Dated: 27.12.10

Memo No. A/WAWL/Sonai Rupai/2010/ 657 - 58


Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of forests, (Wildlife), and Chief Wildlife Warden, Guwahati-29 for information.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Rehabari, Guwahati for information.

(S P Vashis  
Dated: 27.12.10

Extra - Copy

Certified to be true copy

  
Advocate



**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MISSION CO-ORDINATOR  
AXOM SARBA SIKSHA ABHIJAN MISSION : SONITPUR**

: TEZPUR :

PH. NO. 224083/224266

— ~~GT~~ —

No: SSA/Sonit/CW/EGS/09-10/1928/1298

Dtd. 21/01/2011

To,

The Divisional Forest Officer,  
Western Assam Wildlife Division,  
Dolabari, Tezpur

150  
192/11

Sub. Construction of LP School inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary

Ref. Your office letter No. B/WAWL/Sonai Rupai/2010/1297-99

Sir,

You are aware that Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission, Assam is a time bound programme and the main goal of SSA is to provide schooling facility to all the children of the age group of 6-14 years. Further, as per guideline of MHRD, Govt. of India, Schooling facility must be provided to the habitation where there is no any formal school within the radius of 1.5 k.m. To fulfill this goal of SSA, Assam had established some EGS centres temporarily after receiving the approval from the state level EGS Committee. For set-up a EGS centre as per the guideline proposal received from VEC/CEC/TGEC to Panchayat/Block level Education Committee to District level EGS committee. The Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner is the Chairperson of the District level EGS Committee and the Mission Director, SSA, Assam is the Chairperson for the state level.

The EGS centres were established temporarily as per guidelines of MHRD Govt of India. Subsequently, the Govt of Assam vide Notification No PMA/174/2009/53 dtd. 31.12.2009 upgraded these EGS centres to formal LP School and building grant was also sanctioned for the same. Now these centres are running as Govt. LP School under the Edn. Deptt., Assam. For establishment of these centres no single officer was involved. The proposal initiated from various levels by notified Committee as approved by the Govt. of Assam.

This is for favour of your kind information.

Yours faithfully,

(P.K. Mahanta) ACS,  
District Mission Co-ordinator  
SSA, Sonitpur, Tezpur.  
Dtd.

Memo NO: SSA/Sonit/CW/EGS/09-10/1928/

Copy for kind information to-

1. The Mission Director, SSA, Assam, Kahilipara, Ghy-19
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of forest (Wildlife) and Chief Wildlife Warden, Basistha Ghy-29, Assam
3. The Principal Chief Conservator of forest & Head of Forest, Rehabari Assam.
4. The Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur, Tezpur.

Smt. Jina Das

(P.K. Mahanta) ACS,  
District Mission Co-ordinator  
SSA, Sonitpur, Tezpur.

ms:12/01/2011/1298 copy 1

Certified to be true copy  
Smt. Jina Das  
Advocate

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MISSION CO-ORDINATOR  
AXOM SARBA SIKSHA ABHIJAN MISSION : SONITPUR

TEZPUR :

PH. NO. 224083/

NO: SSA/SONIT/CW/EGS/09-10/1928/Pt-I / 479

Did. 28/12/11

To,

- 1) The D.F.O Wild Life, Dolabari, Tezpur.
- 2) The D.F.O Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur.
- 3) The D.F.O Sonitpur East Division, Biswanath

Sub. Permission for construction of EGS Upgraded 'New School Building' for the Year 2010-11 & 2011-12 falling under the areas of Reserve forest/ Wild life sanctuary.

Sir,

In enclosing herewith the list of 68 nos of EGS Upgraded 'New School Building' of Sonitpur district for the Year 2010-11 & 2011-12, I am to inform you that, as per the report of BEEO's these upgraded New School Buildings fall under the areas of Reserve forest / Wild life sanctuary of your respective jurisdiction. The fund for construction of these 'New School Buildings' has already been released to the A/C of the concerned SMCs by the Mission Director, SSA, Assam, Kahilipara, Ghy-19 .

Therefore, I would like to request you to accord permission for taking up the construction works of the above 'New School Buildings' falling under the areas of Reserve forest/ Wild life sanctuary from your end at the earliest.

Encl: As stated above

Yours faithfully,

(P.K.Mahanta, ACS)  
ADC (D) Sonitpur  
&  
DMC, SSA, Sonitpur

Memo NO: SSA/SONIT/CW/EGS/09-10/1928/Pt-I /  
Copy for -

Dtd:

1. The Mission Director, SSA, Assam, Kahilipara, Ghy-19 for kind information.
2. The Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur, Tezpur for kind information.
3. The District Elementary Education Officer, Sonitpur, Tezpur for information.
4. All BEEO's of Sonitpur district for information & necessary action. They are also requested to persue the matter with the concerned D.F.O's for obtaining permission for construction of NSB.

(P.K.Mahanta, ACS)  
ADC (D) Sonitpur

Certified to be true copy  
Advocate

GOVT. OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION, DOLABARI, TEZPUR

Phone: 0371-2268054 (O)

Email: dfo.wawl@gmail.com

Date: 09.01.2012

No. B/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2012/35

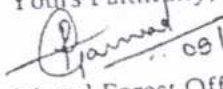
To: Shri P.K. Mahanta, ACS  
ADC(D) Sonitpur & DMC, SSA, Sonitpur

Sub: Regarding permission for construction of EGS upgraded 'New School Building' for the year 2010-11 & 2011-12 falling under Reserve Forest/ Wildlife Sanctuary

Sir, As per the section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 no State Government or other authority shall dereserve forests or use of forest land for non-forest purpose without the prior approval of the Central Government (copy of the act is enclosed). Therefore, the undersigned cannot give permission for taking up construction works of school buildings inside the Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

Further, I would like to request you to depute a staff for collecting coordinates (GPS readings) of proposed school building sites. This exercise will help us to determine whether the proposed schools fall inside the Reserve Forests (that are managed by territorial forest divisions)/ Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.


Yours Faithfully,


  
09/01/12  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division &  
Field Director, Nameri Tiger  
Reserve, Tezpur

Date: 09.01.2012

No. A/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2012/19






Copy to: Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Assam, Bakhishta, Guwahati for favor of kind information.

  
05/01/12  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division &  
Field Director, Nameri Tiger  
Reserve, Tezpur

Certified to be true copy  
  
Advocate

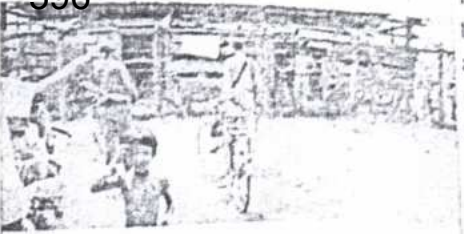
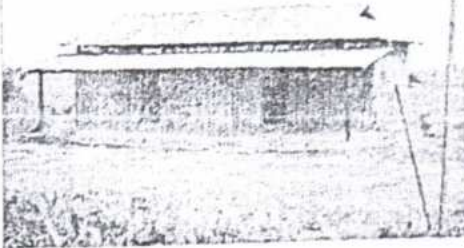
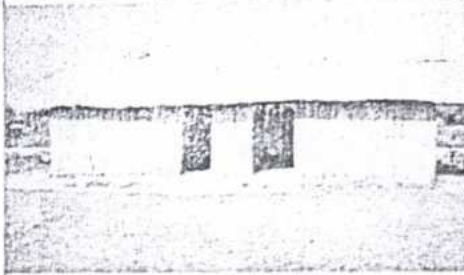
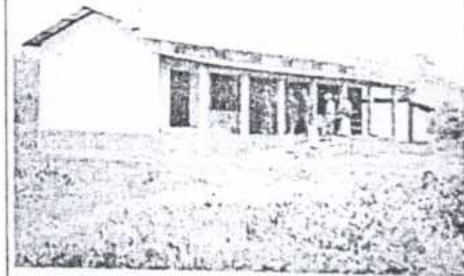

**595**  
CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS INSIDE THE SONAI RUPAI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

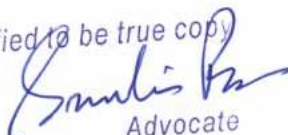
- 65 -

Sl. No	Name	GPS Point	Photograph	Status
1	Jiabari LP School (Venture)	46 R 0448231 UTM 2973098		Located inside the sanctuary area and also used as polling station
2	Dwmwilu Bodo LP School (Venture)	46 R 0447204 UTM 2973432		Located inside the sanctuary area and also used as polling station
3	Haldibari LP School, Venture (Building construction under SSAM)	46 R 0444931 UTM 2971583		Located inside the sanctuary area and also used as polling station
4	Jordanpuri LP School, Venture, SSAM (Building under construction)	46 R 0441500 UTM 2976260		Located inside the sanctuary area and also used as polling station
5	Bineswar Brahma Memorial ME School, Venture (Laodangi)	46 R 0441705 UTM 2971987		Located inside the sanctuary area and also used as polling station

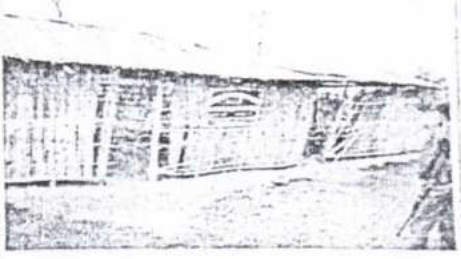


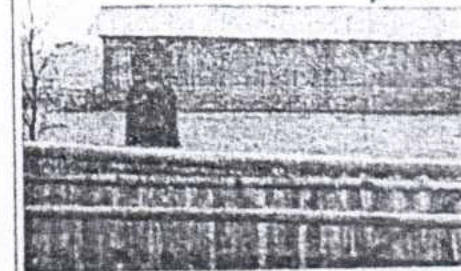
Certified to be true copy

*[Signature]*  
 Advocate

6	Rajkhungri LP School, Venture (Delaisri)	46 R 0441770 UTM 2973705	596 	Located inside the sanctuary area and also used as polling station
7	Rumaijuli LP School, Venture	46 R 0440629 UTM 2974915		Located inside the sanctuary area and also used as polling station
3	Jwunglari LP School, Venture (Ashrabari)	46 R 0441770 UTM 2973705		Located inside the sanctuary area and also used as polling station
9 (A)	Champa Pathar L.P. School, Venture (Building construction under Sarba Shiksha Abhijan Mission )	46 R 0439137 UTM 2977525		Located inside the sanctuary area and also used as polling station
10	Sanjabari LP School, Venture	46 R 0438243 UTM 2974288		Located inside the sanctuary area and also used as polling station

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 Advocate

~~GR~~

1	Adabari L.P. School, Venture	46 R 0435369 UTM 2972900		Located inside the sanctuary area and also used as polling station
1 B)	Adabari L.P. School (SSAM) building under construction	-Do-		Located inside the sanctuary area and also used as polling station
12 A)	Jathapur LP School, Venture (SSAM)	46 R 0438407 UTM 2972751		Located inside the sanctuary area and also used as polling station
12 (B)	Jathipur High School, Venture	-Do-		

Map: SSAM (Casta Chilaha Abhijan Mission)

Certified to be true copy  
*[Signature]*  
 Advocate



GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER:  
WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION, DOLABARI, TEZPUR

4133

ANNEXURE III

(19)

Phone: 0371-2268054 (Tel/Fax)

Email: dfo.wawl@gmail.com

No. B/WAWL/FC Act Violation/2013/ 775 - 77

Date: 08/05/2013

To, District Mission Co-ordinator  
Assam Sarba Shiksha Abhijan Mission  
Sonitpur, Tezpur


Sub: Show cause notice under section 9(1) of Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003 for violating the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980  
Ref: No. B/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2012/35 Dated 09/01/2012

Sir,

Please refer to the letter quoted under reference, through which a request was made to you for deputing staff for ascertaining the locations of schools with respect to the Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. More than a year has passed but this office didn't receive any reply from your good self. Now it has come to the notice of this office that the following school buildings have been constructed inside the Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. According to the information received some of these school buildings have been constructed under Assam Sarba Shiksha Abhijan Mission. As per the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, activities like construction of schools on forest land without prior permission from the Central Government constitutes the use of forest land for non forest purpose and amounts to violation of section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Sl No	Name of the school
1	Champa pathar L.P. School
2	Adabari LP school
3	Jathaipur LP school
4	Haldhibari LP school
5	Jordanpuri LP school
6	Rumajuli LP school
7	Sanjabari LP school
8	Jiabari LP school
9	Dwmwilu Bodo LP school
10	Rajkhungri LP school, Delasari
11	Jwunglari LP school, Ashrabari
12	Bineswar Brahma Memorial ME school, Laodungi

It would be pertinent to mention that the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement on 12-12-1996 in the Writ petition No.202/95 & 171/96 T.N.Godavarman versus Union of India and others has removed all the ambiguity regarding the section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act,1980. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has observed that - The Forest (Conservation) Act,1980 was enacted with a view to check further deforestation which ultimately results in ecological imbalance; and therefore, the provisions made therein for the conservation of Forests and for matters connected therewith, must apply to all forests irrespective of the

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 Advocate

- 58 - 14 -

of ownership or classification thereof. The word "forest" must be understood according to its dictionary meaning. This description covers all statutorily recognised forests, whether designated as reserved, protected or otherwise for the purpose of section 2 (i) of the Forest (Conservation) Act.

Considering the above-mentioned facts, under section 9(1) of the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003, this show cause notice of 60 days is issued to you to give an opportunity for you to explain the construction of schools on the forest land of Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary and as to why a complaint should not be filed in the Honorable Court against you for violating the provision/s of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Further, under the section 9(2) of the said rules, you are requested to furnish within a fortnight the complete details & documents related to the following:

1. Officer(s) along with designation / Authority who proposed construction of schools inside the sanctuary area.
2. Officer(s) along with designation / Authority who granted permission for the construction of schools inside the sanctuary.
3. Officer(s) / Authority involved in the actual construction work of schools.
4. Details of funds released so far for construction of schools.
5. Any reports, documents, statistics or any information related to the schools established inside the sanctuary area.

This is for your kind information and necessary action.

Yours Faithfully,

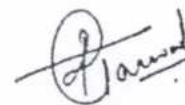
 6/5/13

(R.G. Garawad, IFS)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division

No. B/W/W/SL/FC Act Violation/2013/257-59  
Copy for kind information and necessary action:

Dt:- 08/05/13

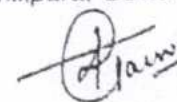
1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Assam, Bishishta Guwahati.
2. Chief Conservator of Forests, Regional Office (North East region), Ministry of Environment & Forest, Shillong.
3. Nodal Officer, O/o Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Assam, Rehabari, Guwahati.

 6/5/13

(R.G. Garawad, IFS)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division


Copy for kind information and necessary action:

1. Mission Director, Sarba Shiksha Abijan (SSA), Assam, Kahilipara, Guwahati - 19.
2. Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur District, Tezpur.

 6/5/13

(R.G. Garawad, IFS)  
Divisional Forest Officer

rd on 6/7/13  
M.

Certified to be true copy  
  
Advocate

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER:  
WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION, DOLABARI, TEZPUR

ANNEXURE

*O/C  
Original copy of this letter  
from Sonai Rupai Wildlife*

Phone: 0371-2268054 (Tel/Fax)

Email: [dfo.wawd@gmail.com](mailto:dfo.wawd@gmail.com)

No. B/WAWL/Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary/2016/750

Date: 28/06/2016

To,

District Mission Coordinator (DMC)  
Sarba Siksha Abhiyan (SSA)  
Sonitpur District

Sub: Construction of school building inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary by the District Mission Coordinator (DMC), Sarba Siksha Abhiyan (SSA), Sonitpur District

Ref: 1. Your office letter no. SSA/SONIT/CW/EGS/09-10/1928/Pt-1/479 dated 28/12/2011  
2. This office letter No. B/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2012/35 dated 09/01/2012  
3. This office letter No. B/WAWL/FC Act Violation/2013/775-77 dated 08/05/2013

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, it is intended to bring to your notice that permission was sought from your office vide your office letter (in reference 1) for construction work of the new school building along with a list of 68 nos. of EGS Upgraded 'New school building' of Sonitpur District for the year 2010-11 & 2011-12.

Although no permission was given from the office of the undersigned, a request was made to depute a staff to collect the GPS readings (GPS coordinates) of the then proposed building sites ( vide letter in reference 2) , so as to determine whether the then proposed sites falls inside the reserve forests ( managed by territorial forest divisions)/ Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

However, the office of the undersigned did not receive any reply in this regard and later it was brought to the notice of the office of the undersigned that some of these schools have been constructed inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. Since this construction activity inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary without the prior permission of the central government violates Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, a show cause notice was issued to the District Mission Coordinator, Assam Sarba Shiksha Abhiyan Mission, Sonitpur, Tezpur vide this office letter ( in reference 3). Unfortunately, the office of the undersigned did not receive any reply from the DMC, SSA, Sonitpur even after the lapse of the mandatory 60 days period of the show cause notice.

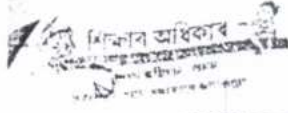
In this regard, this reminder to the show cause notice of 30 days has been issued to you again under section 9(1) of the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003. Further, under the Section 9(2) of the said rules, you are requested to furnish within a forth night the complete details & documents related to the following:

1. Officer(s) along with designation/authority who proposed construction of schools inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary area.
2. Officer(s) along with designation/ authority who granted permission for the construction of schools inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary
3. Officer(s)/authorities involved in the actual construction work of the schools inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.
4. Details of funds released and the scheme for the construction of the said schools
5. Any reports, documents, statistics, or any information related to the said schools established inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

Yours faithfully,

*Rohini*  
28/6/16  
(Rohini Ballave Salkia, IFS)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division

Certified to be true copy  
*Sankar*  
Advocate



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MISSION CO-ORDINATOR  
AXOM SARBA SIKSHA ABHIJAN MISSION : SONAITPUR  
TEZPUR : PH. NO. 224083/2242

No: SSA/Sonit/CW/EGS/09-10/1928/ 460

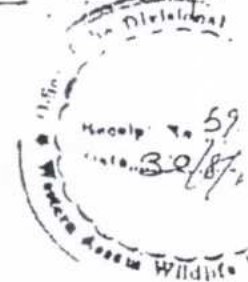
ANNEXURE-V

Dtd. 26/10

To, ✓ The Divisional Forest Officer,  
Western Assam Wildlife Division,  
Dolabari, Tezpur

Sub. Construction of LP School inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

Ref. Your letter No. B/WAWL/Sonai Rupai /2016/750 dated 28/06/2016.



Sir,

You are aware that Right to Education (RTE) Act 2009 implemented all over India from April 2009 including Assam. As per the RTE Act 2009 State Govt. bound to provide free and compulsory quality Education to all childrens in the Elementary level.

Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission, Assam is a time bound programme and the main goal of provide schooling facility to the all children of the age group of 6 – 14 years which is the main objective of the RTE Act 2009. Further, as per the guidelines of MHRD, Govt. of India, schooling facility must be provided in habitations where there is no any formal school within the radius of 1.00 Km. To fulfill this goal of SSA, Government of Assam had established some Education granted centres temporarily after receiving the approval from the State Level EGS Committees. For set up a EGS Centre as per the guideline proposal received from VEC/CEC/Block level Education committee to District Level EGS Committee. The Hon'ble District Commissioner is the Chairperson of the District Level EGS Committee and the Mission Director, SSA, Assam is the Chairperson for the State level.

The EGS Centres were established as per guidelines of MHRD, Govt. of India where population exists. Subsequently, the Govt. of Assam vide-notification No – PMA/174/2009/53 dtd. 31/05/2009 upgraded these EGS Centres to formal LP School.

As per RTE, 2009 to achieve quality Education to all childrens facility of proper infrastructure provided to the children and SSA, Assam had sanctioned building grant @ Rs. 9.98 Lakhs each centre through SMC Accounts directly from State Mission Office for the same. Now, these centres are running as LP School under the Education Deptt. Assam.

Finally, the concerned School Managing Committees constructed the School Building for which they received fund. For establishment of these centres no single officer was involved. As per MHRD guideline proposal initiated from various levels by notified committee as approved by the Govt. of Assam.

This is for favour of your kind information.

Yours faithfully,

{Buli Gogoi Bhuyan, AES}  
District Mission Co-ordinator  
SSA, Sonitpur, Tezpur  
Dtd.

Memo NO: SSA/Sonit/CW/EGS/09-10/1928/

Copy for kind information to-

1. The Mission Director, SSA, Assam, Kahilipara, Ghy-19
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of forest (Wildlife) and Chief Wildlife Warden, Basistha Ghy-29, Assam
3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest, Rehabari, Assam
4. The Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur, Tezpur.

Certified to be true copy

Advocate

50TH JUBILEE YEAR OF THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA  
GREATER PARTICIPATION FOR A STRONGER DEMOCRACY

~~67~~

*[Handwritten signature]*

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER (ELECTION BRANCH)  
SONITPUR: TEZPUR

96 Pt. 2010/611

Di: 07 12 2010

The Divisional Forest Officer,  
Western Assam Wild Life Division,  
Dolabari, Tezpur.

Information in respect of Polling Station under Tezpur Election District

In inviting a reference to the subject cited above, I am enclosing herewith the list of Polling Stations of 71-Dhokiajuli, 74-Rangapara and 75-Sootea L.A. Segments under Tezpur Election District to furnish the factual information under the existing Forest Rule within your jurisdiction area as per the format enclosed herewith.

Please treat the matter as Top Most Election Urgent and submit the report at

Yours

As stated above.

Yours faithfully,

*[Handwritten signature]*

Deputy Commissioner, Sonapur &  
District Election Officer, Tezpur

*[Handwritten initials]*

Di: 07 12 2010

96 Pt. 2010/611

Yours

The Electoral Registration Officer of 71-Dhokiajuli, 74-Rangapara and 75-Sootea L.A. for favour of information and necessary action in this regards.

*[Handwritten initials]*

Certified to be true copy  
*[Handwritten signature]*  
Advocate

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER: WESTERN ASSAM: WILDLIFE:  
 DIVISION: DOLABARI: TEZPUR.

No. B/WAWL/Map/2010/1222  
 To,

Dtd. 13/12/2010.

The Deputy Commissioner,  
 District Sonitpur,  
 Tezpur.

Sub :- Information on Pelling Station under Tezpur Election District.

Ref :- Your office letter No. SEL.30/96/Pt./2010/611 dtd. 7.12.2010.

Sir,

It is intended to furnish map of Senai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary and Nameri National Park on a scale of 1:50,000 and showing latitude and longitudes. The Pelling Stations should not be located inside the aforesaid areas as this amounts to non-forestry activity under the provisions of Forest Conservation Act, 1980. (amended). In today's era of Right to Information Act and Judicial pre-activism the conducting of pelling inside the said Protected Areas may become a source of embarrassment to the state Govt. Further, even the Govt agencies are liable for prosecution for violation of provisions of Forest Conservation Act.

Further, Dhekiajuli P.S. and Missamari P.S. have jurisdiction over Senai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary while Rangapara P.S. (through Charduar Police out post) and Seetea P.S. (through Jamuguri P.S. and Itakhela P.S.) have jurisdiction over Nameri National Park.

It is, therefore, requested to you not to locate Pelling Stations inside the boundaries of said Protected Areas in the interest of wildlife and oblige.

Encl: As mentioned above.

Yours faithfully,

*[Signature]*  
 Divisional Forest Officer  
 Western Assam Wildlife Division  
 Dolabari, Tezpur.

Certified to be true copy  
*[Signature]*  
 Advocate



GOVT. OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER  
WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION  
DOLABARI, TEZPUR

Date: 21.2.2011

No. B/WAWL/Map/2011/ 181

To  
The Deputy Commissioner,  
District: Sonitpur,  
Tezpur

Sub: Information on Polling Station under Tezpur Election District.  
Ref: Your office letter No. SEL.30/96/Pl./2010/176 dated: 10.2.2011. &  
This office letter No. B/WAWL/Map/2010/1222 dated 13.12.2010

Sir,

It is intended to furnish scaled map of Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary and Nameri Tiger Reserve on a scale of 1: 50,000 showing the latitudes and longitudes. Further the names of locality and Polling Stations furnished in your above mentioned letter are unknown to this office. These names are reference points used by the encroachers who have encroached upon the forestland illegally. The Polling Stations should not be located inside the aforesaid areas as this amounts to non-forestry activity under the provisions of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 (amended). In today's era of Right to Information Act and Judicial pro-activism, the conducting of polling inside the said Protected Areas may become a source of embarrassment to the State Govt. Further, even the Govt. agencies are liable for prosecution for violation of provisions of Forest Conservation Act.

It may be mentioned here that already one RTI applicant has been repeatedly asking this office and other offices of Govt. of Assam about the reported conducting of Bye-polls of Dhekiajuli LAC in 2009 inside the encroached area of Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. This has been causing embarrassment to the Govt. of Assam.

It is, therefore, requested to you not to locate Polling Stations inside the notified boundary of said Protected Areas in the interest of wildlife and oblige.

Encl: As mentioned above

Yours Faithfully,

(S.P Vashishth, IFS)  
Divisional Forest Officer,  
Western Assam Wildlife Division,  
Dolabari, Tezpur

o/c

Certified to be true copy  
  
Advocate

Typed copy

Copy of letter no.B/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2011/1041 dtd. 19-11-2011 of  
Divisional Forest Officer, Western Assam Wildlife Division, Dolabari, Tezpur

~~7/10~~

GOVT. OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL, FOREST OFFICER: WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE  
DIVISION, DOLABARI, TEZPUR

Phone: 0371-2268054 (O)

Email: [dfo.wawl@gmail.com](mailto:dfo.wawl@gmail.com)

No: B/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2011/1041

Dated: 19.11.2011

To,  
District Commissioner,  
Sonitpur District, Tezpur

Sub: Ascertaining the presence of polling station within the territorial jurisdiction of Sonai-Rupai  
Wildlife Sanctuary

Ref: No. WL/FG.6/1/Illegalities/09-16 dt. 20/06/2011

Sir,

With reference to the above-mentioned subject I would like state to that I have been directed by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Assam to ascertain the presence of polling stations inside the Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary and to take up the matter with your good office for de-recognizing polling stations that fall within the sanctuary area.

In order to determine whether the polling stations fall inside or outside the sanctuary area we need to collect GPS coordinates of polling stations that are in the vicinity of Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. After collecting GPS coordinates the information will be processed in Geographical Information System (GIS) to find out the list of polling stations that fall within the sanctuary area for taking necessary action. In this regard, you are requested to kindly depute a staff for identifying the polling stations so that our field staff can collect GPS coordinates.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-  
Divisional Forest Officer,  
Western Assam Wildlife Division &  
Field Director, Nameri Tiger  
Reserve, Tezpur

Certified to be true copy

Advocat

GOVT. OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER (WESTERN ASSAM) WILDLIFE  
DIVISION, DOLABARI, TEZPUR

Phone: 0371-2268054 (O)

Email: dfo.awwl@gmail.com

No.B/AWI/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2011/ 1041

Date: 19.11.2011

To

The Deputy Commissioner,  
Sonitpur District, Tezpur

Subj: Ascertaining the presence of polling stations within the territorial jurisdiction of  
Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary

Ref: No.WL/EG.6/1/Illegals/09-10 dt 26/06/2011

Sir,

with reference to the above-mentioned subject I would like state to that I have been directed by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Assam to ascertain the presence of polling stations inside the Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary and to take up the matter with your good office for de-recording polling stations that fall within the sanctuary area.

In order to determine whether the polling stations fall inside or outside the sanctuary area we need to collect GPS coordinates of polling stations that are in the vicinity of Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. After collecting GPS coordinates the information will be processed in a Geographical Information System (GIS) to find out the list of polling stations that fall within the sanctuary area for taking necessary action. In this regard, you are requested to kindly depute a staff for identifying the polling stations so that our field staff can collect GPS coordinates.

Encl: As above

Yours Faithfully,




Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division,  
Joint Director, National Tiger  
Conservation, Tezpur

Certified to be true copy



Advocate

  
 GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
 OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER::  
 WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION, DOLABARI, TEZPUR

Phone: 0371-2268054 (Tel/Fax)

Email: dfo.wawl@gmail.com

No.B/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai WLS/2013/ 1437

Date: 14/08/2013

To,  
 Circle officer  
 Dhekiajuli Revenue Circle

Sub: List of polling stations/schools falling under Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary  
 Ref: No. DRC:3.2008-10/103 Dated 18/07/2013

Sir,  
 As per our survey the following schools/ polling stations fall within the notified area of the Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

Sl No	Name of the school
1	Champa Nathar L.P. School
2	Adabari LP school
3	Jathapur LP school
4	Haldhibari LP school
5	Jordanpuri LP school
6	Rumaijuli LP school
7	Saniabari LP school
8	Jiabari LP school
9	Dwmwilu Bodo LP school
10	Raikhungri LP school, Delasari
11	Jwunglari LP school, Ashrabari
12	Bineswar Brahma Memorial ME school, Laodungi

Further, as per the direction of Principle Chief Conservator of Forest (Wildlife), Assam, these polling stations have to be de-recognized considering the fact that these stations are located within the sanctuary area. A map containing the locations of these polling stations/ schools is enclosed herewith for your information and necessary action.

Yours Faithfully,

  
 14/8/13

(R.G. Garawad)  
 Divisional Forest Officer  
 Western Assam Wildlife Division &  
 Field Director, Nameri Tiger Reserve

Certified to be true copy

  
 Advocate



## GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER::

WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION, DOLABARI, TEZPUR

Phone: 0371-2268054 (Tel/Fax)

Email: dfo.wawl@gmail.com

No. B/WAWL/Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary/2014/330-31

Date: 27/03/2014

To, ✓  
The Deputy Commissioner,  
Sonitpur, Tezpur.

Sub: Establishment of polling station inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.  
Ref: Complaint lodged by Shri Dilip Nath, Member, Aranyak Surakha Samiti, Assam,  
dated 18/03/2014.

Sir,

I would like to draw your kind attention to the letter quoted under reference. Mr Dilip Nath of Pachnoi, has brought to the notice of this office that for the upcoming Lok Sabha election several polling stations are being established inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary (copy of letter enclosed). Further, he has also mentioned that Public Health Engineering Division, Tezpur is also installing rain water harvesting structures inside the sanctuary.

As per the Hon'ble Supreme Court directions and the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, such activities constitute use of forest land for non forest purpose and require prior permission of Central Government. In this regard, necessary instructions may please be given to departments concerned so that violation of the said Act does not take place.

Encl:- As stated.

Yours faithfully,

(R. G. Garawad, IFS)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division

Copy for information: Mr Dilip Nath, Village: Pachnoi, P.O: Hugrajuli - 784507, Sonitpur, Assam

*Important*  
*Tajir a*  
*to up*  
*2014*

(R. G. Garawad, IFS)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division

Certified to be true copy  
 Advocate

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER ::: SONITPUR ::: TEZPUR  
(ELECTION BRANCH)

No. SEL.30/96/

Date : 01/04/2014

To,

The Chief Electoral Officer  
Assam , Dispur

Sub : Establishment of Polling station inside Sonai - Rupai Wildlife  
Sanctuary- regarding.

Ref : Letter no B/WAWL/Sonai -Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary /2014/330-31  
dtd. 27/03/2014

Sir,

In enclosing herewith a copy of the letter under reference received from DFO, Western Assam Wildlife Division, which is self explanatory , I would like to request your honour to kindly issue necessary instruction for taking further action in this regard at this end.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: As stated above.

Sd/-

Deputy Commissioner , Sonitpur &  
Returning Officer, 9-Tezpur H.P.C  
Date :01/04/2014

Memo No : SEL.30/96/ 1054 (A)

Copy to -

✓ DFO, Western Assam Wildlife Division , Sonitpur for information.

*D. S. S.*  
01.04.2014  
Deputy Commissioner , Sonitpur &  
Returning Officer, 9-Tezpur H.P.C

Certified to be true copy

*S. S. S.*  
Advocate

610

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (WILDLIFE)  
BASISTHA::GUWAHATI-29

ANNEXURE 24

No. WL/FE.25/7/Vol-I.

dt. 03/04/2014.

From: Sri R.P. Agarwalla, IFS,  
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
Wildlife & CWLW, Assam.

Tele:(Off) 0361-2306042/1111  
(Fax) 2306100  
Email: pccf.wl.assam@gmail.com  
rajendra.agarwalla@gmail.com

To:  
The Principal Secretary to the Government of Assam,  
Department of Environment & Forests,  
Dispur, Guwahati-6.

Sub:- Polling centre at Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary of Sonitpur District.

Sir,

With reference to the above subject quoted above. I am to inform that Sri Dilip Nath (Reporter) Member, Aranya Suraksha Samiti, Assam, RTI Worker, Vill:- Panchanai, P.O. Hugrajuli-784507, Dist:- Sonitpur (Assam) has requested to take appropriate steps against establishment of polling centre at Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary of Sonitpur District. On the basis of that report Divisional Forest Officer, Western Assam Wildlife Division, Tezpur has submitted a report vide his letter No. nil, dt. 03-04-2014 (Copy enclosed) stating that he has already written to the Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur District that non-forestry activity on Forest Land require prior permission from Central Government.

I, therefore request you to kindly look into the matter and move to Government of India for onward necessary action immediately for seeking necessary instructions from the Election Commission for taking necessary action on the issue.

Encl: As stated.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/(R.P. Agarwalla, IFS)  
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Wildlife, Assam.

Copy to:- 1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force,  
Assam, Rejabari, Guwahati-8 for favour of his kind information.  
2. The Divisional Forest Officer, Western Assam Wildlife Division, Tezpur  
for his information.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Wildlife, Assam.

Certified to be true copy  
Advoca



GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, WILDLIFE & CHIEF  
WILDLIFE WARDEN, BASISTHA, GUWAHATI-29.

204  
01/04/15

~~15~~

No. WL/FG.35/General Correspondence/NP/Sancy.2015.

Dated: 15/03/2016.

To.

The Divisional Forest Officer,  
Western Assam Wildlife Division,  
Tezpur.

Sub: Regarding construction of Road under Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

Ref: Prayer petition No. nil dtd. 27.02.2016.

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of prayer petition dt. 27.02.2016 received from Sri Dilip Nath, Member, Aranya Surakshar Samiti, Assam, the contents of which are self explanatory and request you to enquire into the matter and submit the detail enquiry report to this office immediately.

Matter urgent.

Encl: As above.

*[Signature]*  
15/3

Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife  
& Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam, Basistha, Guwahati-29.

Certified to be true copy

*[Signature]*  
Advocate

612

Translated copy

~~77~~

Date: 11/03/2016

To,

The Divisional Forest Officer (Wildlife)  
Sonitpur West Forest Division, Dolabari,  
Sonitpur, Tezpur.

Sub: Complain regarding construction of metalled road inside Sanctuary

Sir,

Warm regards. It is observed that from 10/02/2016, under PWD's 'Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Pakipath Nirman Aasoni', there is ongoing construction of metalled road/ bridge of cost approximately Rs. 06 Crore in between Hugrajuli- Khaula- 12 km./ Batasipur to Mouriyapur- 08 Km., Batasipur to Aaboi Centre- 06 km. which is being done secretly inside Sonai- Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. So, it is my request to take legal action on PWD and Contractor(s) who violates existing Forest Law.

This is my request.

Yours faithfully,

Dilip Nath  
11/03/2016

Certified to be true

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Advoc.



614

ANNEXURE-27

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER::  
WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION, DOLABARI, TEZPUR

Phone: 0371-2268054 (Tel/Fax)

Email: dfo.wawl@gmail.com

No.B/WAWL/ Road & Bridge/2016/ 248

Date:15/03/2016

To,

The Range Officer,  
Kalamati Wildlife Range,  
Kalamati.

Sub: Regarding construction of pavement within the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary thereof.

Enclosed, herewith is an e-mail received from Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Wildlife) Assam and a complaint submitted by Mr. Dilip Nath, Reporter & member of Arayana Suraksha Samiti, Assam (RTI) dtd. 11/03/2016 the contents of which is self-explanatory.

In this regards, you are hereby asked to enquire into the matter and to submit the detailed report at an early date.

Encl: As stated above.

*o/c*

*R.B. Saikia*  
15/3/16  
(R.B. Saikia, IFS)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Divisi

Certified to be true copy  
*Sanku B.*  
Advocate

GOVT. OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE KALAMATI WILDLIFE RANGE::  
KALAMATI::



Memo No. SR/52/PWD Roads/2016/51

Dt. 17/03/2016

To,  
The Divisional Forest Officer,  
Western Assam Wildlife Division,  
Dolabari, Tezpur.

Sub: Submission of enquiry report regarding construction of pavement (Roads/Bridge) within the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

Ref: Your office letter No.B/WAWL/Roads & Bridge/2016/248 dtd. 15/03/2016.

Sir,

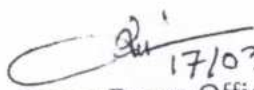
With reference to the subject cited above, I have the honour to report you that I physically enquired the construction site of pavement within the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary by P.W.D. under "Fakuruddin Ali Ahmed Paki Path Nirman" Scheme on 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> March/2016. During enquiry it was found that the construction of road from Batasipur to Mauriapur and Batasipur to Aboi Centre does not fall under Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. But in the construction of road from Hugarajuli to Khaola centre of which about 5 km i.e. from Laibary centre to Bogai centre via Khaola centre falls inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. During the site inspection the construction of culvert, wooden bridge and earth works were noticed.


In this regard, survey of map have been prepared along with G.P.S. Co-ordinates and is enclosed herewith for favour of your kind perusal.

This is for favour of your kind information and necessary action.

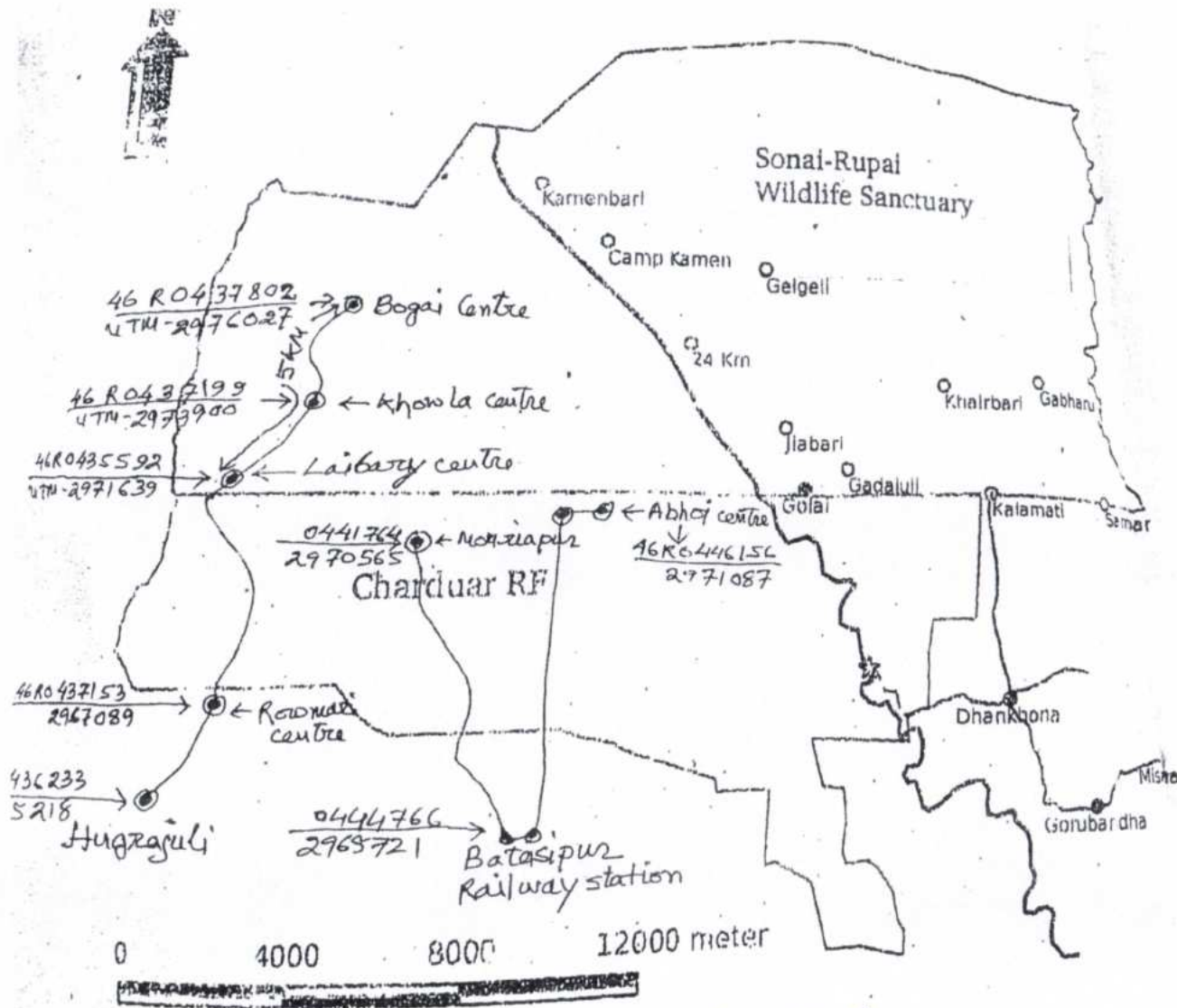
Encl: As stated above.

Yours faithfully,

  
17/03/16  
Forest Range Officer  
Kalamati Wildlife Range  
Kalamati.

Certified to be true copy  
  
Advocate

~~S~~



Submitted  
 17/03/16  
 (S. Jafari)

Map prepared by Jendra Jazwad  
 Range Forest Officer Kalamati

Certified to be true copy  
 Advocate



ANNEXURE - 29

- 82 -

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER::  
WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION, DOLABARI, TEZPUR

Phone: 0371-2268054 (Tel/Fax)

Email: [dfo.wawl@gmail.com](mailto:dfo.wawl@gmail.com)

No.B/WAWL/Encroachment/2016/ 254-55

Date: 17/03/2016

To,

The Executive Engineer,  
Sonitpur State Road Division  
Sonitpur, Tezpur

Sub: Construction of roads/bridges inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary

Ref: 1. E mail received from PCCF (W) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam dated 15/03/2016  
2. Complaint filed by Sri Dilip Nath (Reporter) dated 11/03/2016.  
2. Range Officer Report via Memo No. SR/52/PDW Roads/2016/51 dated 17/03/2016

Sir,

It has been brought to the notice of this office, vide the references mentioned above that your office has been constructing roads and bridges inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary under the scheme " FAKARUDDIN ALI AHMED POKI PATH NIRMAN AASONI". As per the record (in ref. 2), 12 Kms road from Hagrajuki to Khaola, 8 Kms of road from Batasipur to Muriapur and 6 Kms of road from Batasipur to Aboi centre is under construction, and, parts of which are falling within the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

Consequent to the complaints received, the Range Officer, Kalamati in his field inspection report (in ref. 3) stated that about 5 Kms of the road/ bridge construction, i.e., from the Laibari centre to Bogai centre via Khaola Centre falls inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

The construction of roads and bridges inside the Wildlife Sanctuary amounts to "Non-forestry" activity and mandatory permission from the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India is required for carrying out such activity as per the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Even govt. agencies are liable for prosecution for violation of the provisions of the aforesaid act.

Therefore, this office would like to know whether mandatory prior permission of Th Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India was obtained before starting the constructic work. A copy of the proposal as submitted and as approved may also be furnished to this office.

Certified to be true copy

Advocate

The matter should be given priority at your end, and all the construction work falling within the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary must be stopped without delay. Immediate compliance is requested from your end, failing to which necessary action shall be initiated against your department as per the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980.

This is for your kind information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

*Raikia*  
17/3/16

(Rohini Ballave Saikia)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division

Copy to:

1. Deputy Commissioner, Tezpur, Sonitour for her kind information and necessary action please.

*Raikia*  
17/3/16

(Rohini Ballave Saikia)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division

No.A/WAWL/Encroachment 2016/93

Date: 17/03/2016

2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam, Basishta, Guwahati

*Raikia*  
17/3/16

(Rohini Ballave Saikia)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife

Certified to be true copy  
*Smita*  
Advocate

CSIX  
19/3/16  
C/1511/R/2015/3278

Date: 19/3/16

~~Signature~~

To,  
The Divisional Forest Officer,  
Western Assam Wildlife Division,  
Dolabari, Tezpur.

Sub:- Construction of road /Bridges inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

- Ref.-
- 1) Your letter No.B/WAWL/ Encroachment/2016/254-55 dt. 17/3/2016
  - 2) letter No.CB/2015/291,dtd.02/02/2015 from the S.P.Sonitpur District addressed to D.C.Sonitpur
  - 3) Letter memo No.SNZ.15/2014/100.dtd.02/02/2015 from the D.C.Sonitpur Dist.
  - 4) Letter memo No. SNZ-15/2014/181,dtd.09/04/15 from the D.C.Sonitpur Dist.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. mentioned above, I am to inform you the following points-

- 1) Works taken as per instruction of the Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur, vide his letter memo No.SNZ.15/2014/100,dtd.02/02/2015 (copy enclosed)
- 2) Roads are taken for connectivity to the newly established Police pickets. So, it is the matters of security (copy of letter No.CB/2015/291,dtd.02/02/2015 from the S.P.Sonitpur District addressed to D.C.Sonitpur is enclosed).
- 3) No new roads are to be constructed. Works are purely repairing/improvement nature on existing Katcha road.
- 4) No bituminous works is being provided in the project.
- 5) It is not known that the roads which are in question fall under reserved land.

Under such circumstances, you are requested kindly to issue N.O.C.(No objection certificate) for repairing the roads namely-

- (1)Hugrajuli to Khaubla Center (2) Batasipur to Maoriapur (3) Batasipur to Abhoi Center

Considering security of innocent people.

Your kind consideration in this regard is requested

Enco:- As under reference Sl.2,3 & 4.

Yours faithfully,

~~Signature~~  
(A.K. Dutta)

Executive Engineer, PWD  
Sonitpur State Road Division, Tezpur  
Date:- 19/3/16

Memo No. C/1511/R/2015/ 3279-A

Copy to :-

- (1) The Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur District, Tezpur for favour of kind information & necessary action. It is urgently require to complete the repairing works before monsoon started. Enco:- Copy of the letter mentioned under Ref. =4Nos.
- (2) The Superintendent of Police, Sonitpur District, Tezpur for favour of kind information & necessary action. Enco:- Copy of the letter mentioned under Ref. =4Nos.
- (3) The Superintending Engineer, PWD, Tezpur Road Circle, Tezpur for favour of kind information. Enco:- Copy of the letter mentioned under Ref. =4Nos.
- (4) The Asstt. Executive Engineer, PWD Dhekiajuli State Road Sub-Divn. for information & necessary action.
- (5) Sri Lalit Kr. Agarwala, Contractor for information. He is asked to stop the work "Hugrajuli to Khaubla Center" until matter is settled down.
- (6) Sri Kulen Hazarika, Contractor for information. He is asked to stop the work "Batasipur to Maoriapur Center" until matter is settled down.
- (7) Sri Suraj Agarwalla, Contractor for information. He is asked to stop the work "Batasipur to Abhoi Center" until matter is settled down

~~Signature~~  
(A.K. Dutta)  
Executive Engineer, PWD  
Sonitpur State Road Division, Tezpur

Certified to be true copy  
~~Signature~~  
Advocate

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER::  
WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION, DOLABARI, TEZPUR

Phone: 0371-2268054 (Tel/Fax)

Email: dfo.wawl@gmail.com

No.B/WAWL/Encroachment/2016/ 312-14

Date: 30/03/2016

To,

The Executive Engineer,  
Sonitpur State Road Division  
Sonitpur, Tezpur

Sub: Construction of roads/bridges inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

Ref: 1. Your letter No. C/1511/R/2015/3278 dated 19/03/2016  
2. Complaint filed by Sri Dilip Nath (Reporter) dated 11/03/2016  
3. E-mail received from PCCF (W) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam dated 17/03/2016

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above the undersigned would like to bring to your kind notice that as per Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 no state government or authority shall use forest land for non forest purpose without the prior approval of central government. The repairing and improvement work of roads inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary also amounts to non forestry activity and hence the office of the undersigned is not authorised to issue any N.O.C in this regard.

Further, you are requested to obtain the mandatory permission from the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India for carrying out the repairing and improvement works of roads inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. The guidelines and the details for the same can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

This is for your kind information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

*Rohini Ballave Saikia*

(Rohini Ballave Saikia)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division

Copy to:

1. Deputy Commissioner, Tezpur, Sonitpur for her kind information and necessary action please.
2. Superintendent of Police, Sonitpur, Tezpur for her kind information please.

*Rohini Ballave Saikia*

(Rohini Ballave Saikia)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division

Certified to be true copy  
*Sankar*  
Advocate

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER:  
WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION, DOLABARI, TEZPUR

Phone: 0371-2268051 (Tel/Fax)

E-mail: dfo.wawb@gmail.com

No.B/WAWL/Encroachment 2016- 344-45

Date: 05/04/2016

To,

The Executive Engineer,  
Sonitpur State Road Division  
Sonitpur, Tezpur

Sub: Show cause notice under section 9(1) of Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003 for violating the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

Ref: Your letter No. C/1511/R/2015/3278 dated 19/03/2016

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, it is intended to bring to your kind information that, in your letter (in reference above) you have mentioned that your department has taken up the repairing and improvement works on existing Katcha road as per the instruction of the Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur. On preliminary enquiry, it was found that the part of the roads fall within the Soni Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

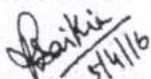
In this regard, it would be pertinent to mention that the works taken up by your department has led to the violation of section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Therefore, this show cause notice of 60 days is issued to you to give an opportunity for you to explain the works carried out by your department inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary and as to explain why complaint should not be filed against you in the honourable court for violating the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980


Further, under the Section 9(2) of the said rules, you are requested to furnish within a fortnight the complete details and documents related to the following.

1. Under what scheme/project was the existing katcha road made? Since, as per our records there are no forest roads in that area.
2. Under what scheme/project was the repairing and maintenance work carried out in the existing Katcha road?
3. Whether mandatory prior permission of Govt. of India was obtained before starting the construction work?
4. A copy of the proposal of the scheme/project as submitted and as approved should be furnished to this office immediately.


This is for your kind information and necessary action

Yours faithfully,

  
(Rohini Ballave Saikia)  
Divisional Forest Officer

Certified to be true copy  
  
Advocate

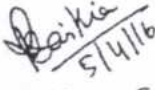
Copy to:  
1. The Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur, Tezpur for her kind information and necessary action please

  
(Rohini Ballave Saikia)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division

Date: 05/04/2016

No.A/WAWL/Encroachment/2016/ 115

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden,  
Assam, Basishta, Guwahati

  
(Rohini Ballave Saikia)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division

Certified to be true copy  
  
Advocate

GOVT. OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PWD, SONITPUR STATE ROAD  
DIVISION::: TEZPUR

No. Misc-21/91-92 (B) Part II/

436

Date:- 27/05/2016

To: The Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division  
Dolabari, TezpurSub:- Show cause notice under Section 9 (1) of Forest (conservation) Rules, 2003  
for violating the provisions of Forest (conservation) Act, 1980.

Reference:- Your letter No. B/WAWL/Encroachment/ 2016/344-45 dt. 5-4-2016.

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, I would like to inform that under following reasons complaint should not be filed against the undersigned in the honourable court. The reasons are:-

- 1) The road required to be repaired are taken as per instruction of District Civil Authority.
- 2) The roads are required to be repaired due to security point of view.
- 3) As soon as your letter received, Contractors were instructed to stop all types of activities of repairing of roads.
- 4) For No-objection certificate, it had already been applied from this division.
- 5) There was instance of lack of security due to communication gap for which a good nos. of innocent peoples including police personnel were killed by the extremist.

So, you are requested to view the matter sympathetically considering safety of lives of innocent people living in that area.

Yours faithfully,

(A.K. Dutta)

Executive Engineer, PWD  
Sonitpur State Road Division, Tezpur

Memo No. Misc-21/91-92 (B) Part-II/ 436 (A)

Date:- 27/5/2016.

Copy forwarded to the :-

- 1) The Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur District, Tezpur for favour of information and kind necessary action.
- 2) Superintending Engineer, PWD, Tezpur Road Circle, Tezpur for favour of information and necessary action. He is requested kindly to instruct the undersigned regarding the matter.

sd/

(A.K. Dutta)

Executive Engineer, PWD  
Sonitpur State Road Division, Tezpur

Certified to be true copy

Advocate

624  
GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER:  
WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION, DOLABARI, TEZPUR

ANNEXURE-34

Phone: 0371-2268054 (Tel/Fax)

Email: dfo.wawl@gmail.com

No.B/WAWL/Encroachment/2016/802

Date: 11/07/2016

To,

The Deputy Commissioner,  
Sonitpur, Tezpur

Sub: Construction of roads/bridges inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary

Ref: 1. Complaint filed by Sri Dilip Nath (Reporter) dated 11/03/2016.  
2. Show cause notice reply received from the Executive Engineer, PWD, Sonitpur State Road Division, Tezpur dated 27/05/2016

Madam,

With reference to the subject cited above, it is to bring to your kind information that construction of roads and bridges was carried out inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary by the Executive Engineer, PWD, Sonitpur State Road Division. As per the records available at this office, the construction was carried out under the scheme "FAKARUDDIN ALI AHMED POKI PATH NIRMAN AASONI" and part of the roads constructed falls within the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

The construction of roads and bridges inside the Wildlife Sanctuary amounts to "Non-forestry" activity and mandatory permission from the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India is required for carrying out such activity as per the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Therefore, a show cause notice was served to the Executive Engineer, Sonitpur State Road Division, Sonitpur, Tezpur vide this office letter no. B/WAWL/Encroachment/2016/344-45 dated 05/04/2016. (Copy enclosed as Annexure I)

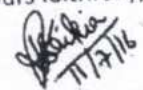
Consequent to this show cause notice, a reply was received from the Executive Engineer, Sonitpur State Road Division stating that the work was taken up as per the instruction of the Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur, Tezpur. (Copy enclosed as Annexure II).


However, the office of the undersigned was not informed about the construction to be carried out inside the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary, neither the office of the undersigned was associated for any kind of survey conducted prior to the construction, to find out the status of the land.

In this regard, you are requested to give your comments, clarifications and suggestions in the matter since this has violated the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

This is for your kind information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Rohini Ballave Saikia)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division

Certified to be true copy  
  
Advocate

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2015-0

(210) ~~10~~

Copy for  
No. A/WAWL/T. encroachment/2016/248

Date: 11/07/2016

1 The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam, Basishta, Guwahati

(Rohini Ballave Saikia)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division

Certified to be true copy  
  
Advocate

Typed 626 COPY

Copy of Letter No. SRS-153/2008-2019/Pt-1/448 dtd. 25/02/2020 of the Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur, Tezpur.

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER:::SONITPUR:::TEZPUR  
(Grazing Branch)

Letter No. SRS-153/2008-2019/Pt-1/448

Date: 25/02/2020

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,  
WPT & BC Department,  
Assam Secretariat (Civil),  
Dispur, Guwahati-6

Sub: Compliance of Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated 13/02/2019, 28/02/2019 and 06/08/2019 in Writ Petition Civil No. 109/2008 Wild Life First and others- vs- Ministry of forest and Environment and others. Providing Geo-reference data(.shp) of rejected claim list

Ref: 1. Letter No TAD/BC/303/2010/P/345, Dtd-20/02/2020.  
2. Letter No TAD/BC/303/2010/Pt/296, Dtd-17/10/2019.

Madam,

With reference to subject cited above, it is to be stated that the matter of collecting Geo-reference data of all 21515 Units of rejected claim etc. is a huge exercise in Sonitpur District. The undersigned wants to highlight the following major points regarding this issue.

1. The preparation of Geo referenced shape file of rejected claims totalling 21515 in number is a complex technical task, which is very difficult to be executed with the available human resource in the District.
2. The various rounds of meeting with forest & revenue officials to execute the project resulted into NIL out came because the officials are unable to handle the technical issues involved with the task.
3. The undersigned took serious efforts to outsource the work to private agencies for which preparation of Expression of Interest/NIT is a challenge due to the fact that no Department in District having experience to plan, estimate & execute such work.
4. The survey of an area 26,768.92 Ha approx. involved in the above task in diverse terrain scattered throughout district, need a project management consultant. Generally, these kinds of projects are handled by National Remote Sensing Agency(NRSA), Survey of India or any other such institute who have manpower & expertise to execute these projects.
5. In spite of all these technical challenges the undersigned has prepared and about to float an Expression of interest to explore the market for doing this job.
6. It is requested to handover this work to the expert agency for execution.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-  
Deputy Commissioner  
Sonitpur, Tezpur  
Date: 25/02/2020

Memo No.SRS-153/2018-2019/Pt-I/448(A)

Copy to:

1. The P.D. ITDP, Sonitpur, Tezpur for information.
2. The DFO, Sonitpur West Division for information.
3. The DFO, Wildlife, Sonitpur, Tezpur for information.
4. The DFO, Sonitpur East Division, Biswanath for information.
5. The Sub Divisional Welfare Officer, Sonitpur, Tezpur for information.
6. The branch Officer, Forest for information.

Certified to be true copy  
Advocate

Sd/-  
Deputy Commissioner  
Sonitpur, Tezpur

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, SONITPUR, TEZPUR  
(Grazing Branch)

Date 25/02/2020

No. SRS-153/2008-2019/Pt-I, 153

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,  
WPT & BC Department,  
Assam Secretariat (Civil),  
Dispur, Guwahati-6

Sub- Compliance of Honble Supreme Court's order dated 13/02/2019, 28/02/2019 and 06/08/2019 in Writ Petition Civil No. 109/2008 Wild Life First and others vs. Ministry of Forest and Environment and others. Providing Geo-reference data(.shp) of rejected claim list.

Ref: 1. Letter No TAD/BC/303/2010/Pt/345, Dtd-20/02/2020.  
2. Letter No TAD/BC/303/2010/Pt/296, Dtd-17/10/2019.

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3. The undersigned took serious efforts to outsource the work to private agencies for which preparation of Expression of Interest/NIT is a challenge due to the fact that no Department in District having experience to plan, estimate & execute such work.
4. The survey of an area 26,768.92 Ha approx involved in the above task in diverse terrain scattered throughout district, need a project management consultant. Generally these kinds of projects are handled by National Remote Sensing Agency(NRSA), Survey of India or any other such institute who have manpower & expertise to execute these projects.
5. In spite of all these technical challenges the undersigned has prepared and about to float an Expression of Interest to explore the market for doing this job.
6. It is requested to handover this work to the expert agency for execution.

Yours faithfully,

Deputy Commissioner,  
Sonitpur, Tezpur

Date: 25/02/2020

Memo No SRS-153/2008-2019/Pt-I/442 (1)

Copy to:

1. The PD, ITDP Sonitpur, Tezpur for information
2. The DFO, Sonitpur West Division for information.
3. The DFO, Wild Life Sonitpur, Tezpur for information.
4. The DFO, Sonitpur East Division, Biswanath, for information.
5. The Sub Division Welfare Officer, Sonitpur, Tezpur for information.
6. The Branch Officer, Forest for information.

Deputy Commissioner,  
Sonitpur, Tezpur

Certified to be true copy  
Advoca

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Typed copy

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Copy of letter No. SRS.153/2008-2019/Pt-I/134 dtd. 29-12-2021 of Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur, Tezpur (Transformation & Development Branch).

No. SRS.153/2008-2019/Pt-I/134

dtd. 29-12-2021

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,  
WPT & BC Department,  
Assam Secretariat (Civil),  
Dispur, Guwahati-6.

Sub:- Compliance of Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated 13-02-2019, 28-02-2019 and 06-08-2019 in writ petition Civil No. 109/2008 Wildlife First and others – vs- Ministry of Forest and Environment and other. Providing Geo reference data (.shp) of rejected claim list.

Ref:- This office letter No. SRS.153/2008-2019/Pt-I/448 dtd. 29-02-2020 (copy enclosed)

Sir/Madam,

With reference to the subject cited above, I have the honour to inform you that a letter was sent to Govt. in WPT & BC Deptt, Dispur vide letter under reference (Enclosed as Annexure-A) regarding collecting Geo reference data of all 21515 units of rejected claim etc. but till date the reply is yet to be received from your end.

Where in a request was made by this office for floating EOI. You are requested kindly to allow the undersigned to float the Expression of Interest in the above matter.

This is for favour of your kind information and necessary action.

Enco: As stated above.

Yours faithfully

Sd/-  
Deputy Commissioner  
Sonitpur, Tezpur

Certified to be true copy  
  
Advocate

~~32~~

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, SONITPUR (TEZPUR)  
(TRANSFORMATION & DEVELOPMENT BRANCH)

Dated: 25/2/2021

To: The Director, Deptt. of Assam  
Appl. & Development,  
2, 3rd Floor, Assam  
2, 3rd Floor, Assam

Compliance of Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated 13/02/2019, 28/02/2019 and 6/08/2019  
regarding the order No. 109/2008 Wild Life First and subsequent Ministry of Forest and  
Environment and others - Providing Geo-reference data (slip) of rejected claim list.

Re: L.O. No. 109/2008 WLS-13/2008 2019/P-1448 Dtd. 29/02/2020. (Copy enclosed)

With reference to the subject cited above, I have the honour to inform you that a letter was  
sent to you on 19/02/2021. Deptt. Disposal vide letter under reference (Enclosed as Annexure-A)  
regarding providing Geo-reference data of all 21515 units of rejected claim etc. but till date the  
data has not been received from your end.

Where a request was made by this office for floating EOI. You are requested kindly to  
arrange the arrangements to float the Expression of Interest, in the above matter.

This is for favour of your kind intimation and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Yours faithfully,

Deputy Commissioner  
Sonitpur (Tezpur)

Certified to be true copy

*[Signature]*  
Advocate

Memo No.SR/10/FIR/2016/220-21

Dated Kalamati, the 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2016

To.

The Officer-in-charge,  
Dhekiajuli Police Station,  
Dhekiajuli, Sonitpur

Sub: First Information Report (FIR).

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, I would like to inform you that the contractor, Shri Lalit Kr. Agarwala of O/o the Executive Engineer, PWD, Sonitpur State Road Division, Tezpur constructed road within the encroached area of the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary from Laibari Centre to Bogai Centre via Khaola Centre which is about 5 km in length. The construction of such road in protected areas clearly violates the provision of various sections of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 as amended up to date including section-27, 29 of WPA, 1972 and it also violates the provisions of various sections of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as amended up to date

You are, therefore, requested to kindly book the case against Shri Lalit Agarwala for the offence committed by him in the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

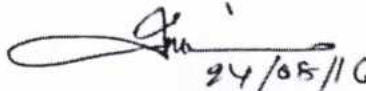
This is for favour of your kind information and necessary action please.


Yours faithfully,

(Sudarson Jahari, AFS)  
Range Forest Officer,  
Kalamati Range, Kalamati

Copy to:

The Divisional Forest Officer, WAWL Division, Dolabari, Tezpur for favour of his kind information and necessary action.

  
24/08/16  
(Sudarson Jahari, AFS)  
Range Forest Officer,  
Kalamati Range, Kalamati

Certified to be true copy  
  
Advoca.



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Typed copy

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Copy of letter No. B/WAWL/Solar Light/10/281 dtd. 03-04-2010 of Divisional Forest Officer, Western Assam Wildlife Division, Dolabari, Tezpur

GOVT. OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER  
WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION  
DOLABARI, TEZPUR

No. B/WAWL/Solar Light/10/281

Dated: 3.4.10

To

The Executive Engineer,  
PHE, Division-2  
Sonitpur, Tezpur.

**Sub:** Installation of Ring Well inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary.

**Ref:** Work orders vide your office memo No.EE/PHE/Tez

Sir,

This office has come across a work order as mentioned above vide which your office has asked a contractor by the name of Sh. Hiranya Borah to install three Nos of Ringwell at three locations under the Dhekiajuli Block. All the said locations fall inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. The act of installation of Ringwells inside the Sanctuary without prior permission of the Govt. of India amounts to diversion of forest land for non-forestry purpose. This contravenes the provisions of the Forest Conservation Act. 1980(amended). Even Govt. agencies violating the aforesaid Act are liable for prosecution. Consequently it is requested to you to cancel all such work orders or else this office will initiate prosecution against you by name before the relevant Court of Law. The matter is serious and should receive priority at your end. The action taken report may be communicated to this office immediately.

Yours Sincerely,

Sd/-  
(S.P. Vashishth. IFS)  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division  
Dolabari, Tezpur

Certified to be true copy  
Advocate

GOVT. OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER  
WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE DIVISION  
DOLABARI TEZPUR

97  
X

No. B/ *NANL/Solar light/10/281*  
10

Dated: 3.1.10

The Executive Engineer  
PIE, Division 2  
Sonitpur, Tezpur.

Sub: **Installation of Ring well inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary**  
Ref: Work orders vide your office Memo No. FE, PIE, Tezpur, WB-3(C) 3009, 10, 3, 9, 10, 10  
5/3 2010

Sir,

This office has come across a work order as mentioned above vide which your office has asked a contractor by the name of Sh. Hiranya Borah to install three Nos. of Ringwell at three locations under the Dhekiajuli Block. All the said locations fall inside Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. The act of installing of Ringwells inside the Sanctuary without prior permission of the Govt. of India amounts to diversion of forestland for non-forestry purpose. This contravenes the provisions of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 (amended). Even Govt. agencies violating the aforesaid Act are liable for prosecution. Consequently it is requested to you to cancel all such work orders or else this office will initiate prosecution against you by name before the relevant Court of Law. The matter is serious and should receive priority at your end. The action taken report may be communicated to this office immediately.

Yours Sincerely

*[Signature]*  
3/10

ESPA Achishob Borah  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Western Assam Wildlife Division  
Dolabari, Tezpur

*o/c*  
=

Certified to be true copy

*[Signature]*  
Advocate



GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
ENVIRONMENT & FOREST DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER  
SONITPUR WEST DIVISION:: TEZPUR

Email: [dfo.t.sonitwest@gmail.com](mailto:dfo.t.sonitwest@gmail.com)

No. FSWT/A/NGT/OA No.168/2024/2654-56

Date: 19-07-2024

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, &  
Head of Forests Force, Assam,  
Panjabari, Guwahati-37.

Sub:

Submission of Report in the matter of O.A. No. 168/2023/EZ (Dilip Nath – vs- PCCF & HoFF, Assa & Ors) –reg.

Ref:

This office letter No. (1) FSWT/A/NGT/O.A No.168/2024/2557-59 dated 16/07/2024  
(2) FSWT/A/NGT/O.A No.168/2024/2618-19 dated 18/07/2024

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, I have the honour to furnish herewith the list of unauthorized activities inside the Charduar Reserved Forests under Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur.

**Violations inside the Charduar Reserved Forests**

Year	Violation
2010	Installation of Drinking water facility
2011	Construction of 33 (thirty three) Nos. of schools inside Charduar Reserved Forests
2016	Construction of roads starting from Hugrajuli to Khaubla, Batashipur to Maouriapur and Batashipur to Abhoi centre under Charduar RF
2018	Establishment of Tea garden by Sri Joy Ram Rabha at Charduar RF. <b>The encroached area has already been cleared on 29/06/2024 by this Division</b>
2023	Construction of Sluice gate at Siloni River under Charduar RF

Further, a chronological report is also appended herewith for your kind perusal.

This is for favour of your kind information and necessary action.

Encl: As stated above

Yours faithfully,

*M. H. / 19/07/2024*  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur

Copy to :-

The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, (T), Upper Assam Zone, Jorhat for favour of his kind information and necessary action.

The Chief Conservator of Forests, Northern Assam Circle, Tezpur for favour of his kind information and necessary action.

*M. H. / 19/07/2024*  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur

Certified to be true copy  
*[Signature]*  
Advocate

Year	Event
2010	<p>On 27.03.2010, the DFO, Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur has wrote a letter to the Executive Engineer PHE Division-2, Sonitpur, Tezpur to stop the planning to install water supply schemes (Ringwell) inside the notified RF of Charduar RF and Sonai-Rupai RF Sanctuary without getting prior approval from the competent authority, other wise, he will be personally held responsible for such violation in future <b>(Copy enclosed as Annexure-1).</b></p> <p>On 30.03.2010, a letter has been received from the Executive Enginner (PHE), Tezpur Division No.II, Tezpur mentioning that Govt. has sanctioned 120 nos. ringwell in Batasipur area under ARWSP programme during the year 2009-10 and accordingly Executive Enginner (PHE), Tezpur is going to install these ringwell to provide safe drinking water. Also mentioning in the letter that during execution of works the forest staff has raised objection for installation of ringwel as the area falls under Forest land <b>(Copy enclosed as Annexure-2).</b></p> <p>On reply the DFO, Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur has informed to the Executive Enginner (PHE), Tezpur Division No.II, Tezpur that any developmental works inside the RF area are not allowed by any other agency or Govt. department until and un-less the necessary Nodal Clararance is obtained from the Competent authority. For violation of this act, the executing agency is liable for proscution and also requested to submit the proposal as per format immediately for obtaining permission vide letter No. B/F.C.Act/4810, dtd.01/04/2010 <b>(Copy enclosed as Annexure-3).</b></p>
2024	<p>Further, a complaint under Section 15 (1) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules 2023 for violating the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (Amended upto 2023) has been issued to the Executive Engineer, PHE Division-2, Sonitpur, Tezpur vide letter No. FSWT/B/FC Act, 1980/2024/4829-30, dtd.29/06/2024 <b>(Copy enclosed as Annexure-4).</b></p>

Submitted

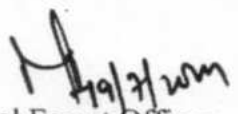
*M. H. H. H.*  
 Divisional Forest Officer  
 Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur

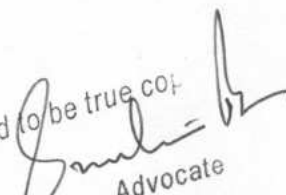
Certified to be true copy  
*S. M. H. H.*  
 Advocate

**Chronological report of 33 Nos. of Schools illegally established inside Charduar Reserve Forests**

Year	Event
2011	<p>On 25.12.2011, Sri P.K. Mahanta, ACS, District Mission Coordinator (DMC), wrote a letter to DFO, Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur requesting to accord permission for taking up the construction of EGS Upgraded New Buildings falls under the RF areas. <b>(Copy enclosed as Annexure-5).</b></p> <p>In response of the letter Dtd. 25.12.2011, the then DFO, Sonitpur West Division wrote a letter on 09-01-2012 to Sri P.K. Mahanta, ACS, ADC (D) Sonitpur, DMC, SSA, Sonitpur stating that Non-forestry activities inside the RF areas can not be allowed as per provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and for execution of such work prior approval/clearance from Ministry of Environment &amp; Forest, Govt. of India is required as per guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 <b>(Copy enclosed as Annexure-6).</b></p>
2016	<p>Despite not receiving permission from the competent authority to construct schools within the RF area, the District Mission Coordinates of Assam SSA, Sonitpur, proceeded with constructing 33 nos. School buildings, thereby violating Section 2 of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980. Taking action, on 16.01.2018 the Dhekiajuli Range Officer informed the DFO that an FIR was lodged at Dhekiajuli Police station against the managing committee for constructing 33 nos. schools inside Charduar RF for the violation of the provision of FC Act,1980 vide letter No. DH/Police case/80/2016/274-75 dated 01.08.2016. Unfortunately, the case wasn't registered as reported by Dhekiajuli PS <b>(Copy enclosed as Annexure-7).</b></p>
2024	<p>After that, a complaint under Section 15 (1) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules 2023 for violating the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (Amended upto 2023) has been issued to the District Mission Coordinator, Axom Sarba Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Sonitpur, Tezpur vide letter No. FSWT/B/FC Act, 1980/2024/4827-28, dtd.29/06/2024 <b>(Copy enclosed as Annexure-8).</b></p>

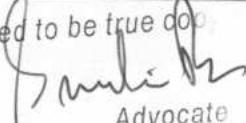
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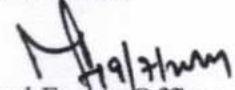

**Chronological report of roads starting from Hugrajuli to Khaubla, Batashipur to Maouriapur and Batashipur to Abhoi centre inside Charduar Reserve Forests**

Year	Event
2016	<p>On dtd. 09.03.2016, the Range Officer, Dhekiajuli Range, Dhekiajuli wrote a letter to the Asstt. Executive Engineer, PWD, Sonitpur Rural Sub-Division, Tezpur that one organization is constructing roads and bridges inside Charduar RF starting from Hugrajuli to Khaubla, Batashipur to Maouriapur and Batashipur to Abhoi centre without having prior clearance from the Forest Department under the provision of Forest Conservation Act.,1980 and requested Asstt. Executive Engineer, PWD, Sonitpur Rural Sub- Division to stop the ongoing construction works in the said RF areas and to obtain necessary NOC from the Higher authority (PCCF &amp; HoFF, Assam) <b>(Copy enclosed as Annexure-9).</b></p>
	<p>That on 12.03.2016, in response to the FRO, Dhekiajuli's letter dtd. 09.03.2016, the Asstt. Executive Engineer, PWD, Sonitpur Rural Sub- Division, Dhekiajuli informed that in the construction of road and bridges from Hugrajuli to Khaubla, Batashipur to Maouriapur and Batashipur to Abhoi centre road are in progress under Fakaruddin Ali Ahmed Poki Path Nirman Achoni 2015-16. The bridges are timber materials and road will be gravel finished as desired by the Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur, Tezpur for providing connectivity to the newly established Police pickets at Khaubla centre, Maouriapur &amp; Abhoi centre <b>(Copy enclosed as Annexure-10).</b></p>
	<p>On dtd. 15.03.2016, a letter was issued to the Executive Engineer, Sonitpur State Road Division, Tezpur by the DFO, Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur that the construction of roads from Hugrajuli to Khaubla, Batashipur to Maouriapur and Batashipur to Abhoi centre may encourage the encroachers to encroach new area of the RF. Also informed to execute any non forestry activities inside RF area, prior permission/approval from the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India is mandatory as per the provision of Forest Conservation Act,1980. Then the DFO also requested to stop all the works immediately to execute inside Charduar RF area before obtaining prior approval from the competent authority. Otherwise necessary action will be initiated as per the guidelines of FC Act,1980 against the department for violation of the Section of Forest Conservation Act,1980 <b>(Copy enclosed as Annexure-11).</b></p>
	<p>On dtd. 18.03.2016 EE, PWD, Sonitpur State Road Division, Tezpur has replied to the DFO, Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur the following points-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Works are taken as per instruction of the Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur vide his letter Memo No. SNZ.15/2014/100, dtd. 02/02/2015.</li> <li>ii) Roads are taken for connectivity to the newly established Police Pickets for security purpose.</li> <li>iii) No new roads are to be constructed, works are purely repairing/improvement nature on existing Katcha road.</li> <li>iv) No bituminous works is being provided in the project.</li> <li>v) It is not known that the roads, which are in question, fall under reserved land. The EE, PWD, Sonitpur State Road Division, Tezpur has requested to issue NOC for repairing the roads namely i) Hugrajuli to Khaubla Centre. ii) Batasipur to Maoriapur and Batasipur to Abhoi Centre. Considering security of innocent people. <b>(Copy enclosed as Annexure-12).</b></li> </ol>
	<p>Then the DFO, Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur has directed to the RO. Dhekiajuli to personally ensure that the road works inside the Charduar RF has already been stopped by the PWD Department vide letter No. B/FC Act,1980/SW/2016/2217, dtd. 22/04/2016 <b>(Copy enclosed as Annexure-13).</b></p>

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	<p>On 22.06.2016, the DFO, Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur has submitted a detailed report to the CF, NAC, Tezpur against the illegal construction of road inside Charduar RF and Sonai-Rupai WL Sanctuary which is enclosed as <b>Annexure-14</b>.</p>
	<p>Then on 05.07.2016, the Conservator of Forests, Northern Assam Circle, Tezpur has submitted the DFO's letter regarding illegal construction of road inside Charduar RF and Sonai-Rupai WL Sanctuary to the Additional PCCF (T),UAZ, Kacharighat, Guwahati-1(Copy enclosed as <b>Annexure-15</b>).</p>
2024	<p>Further, a complaint under Section 15 (1) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules 2023 for violating the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (Amended upto 2023) has been issued to the Executive Engineer, PWD, Tezpur, Naduar &amp; Rangapara Territorial Road Division, Sonitpur, Tezpur vide letter No. FSWT/B/FC Act, 1980/2024/4823-24, dtd.29/06/2024 (Copy enclosed as <b>Annexure-16</b>).</p>

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**Chronological report of illegal establishment of Tea Garden inside Charduar Reserve  
Forests by Sri Jay Ram Rabha**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>2018</b>	On 12.06.2018, DFO wrote a letter to Chairman, ABITA Sonitpur, Tezpur to provide all details regarding the establishment/ set up of a tea garden by Jay Ram Rabha within Charduar RF without any prior permission from the competent authority, which is a violation of the FC Act, 1980. <b>(Copy enclosed as Annexure-17).</b>
	Also, a notice was issued to Sri Jay Ram Rabha on dtd. 12.06.2018 mentioning the violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 <b>(Copy enclosed as Annexure-18).</b>
<b>2024</b>	The DFO Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur has already been cleared the above said Tea Garden on dtd. 29.06.2024. <b>(Photographs enclosed as Annexure- 19)</b>

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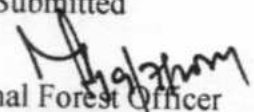
  
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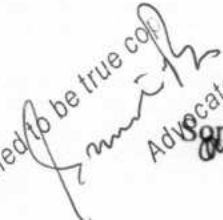
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**Chronological report of illegally constructed sluice gate at Siloni river inside Charduar Reserve Forests**

Year	Event
2023	On 10.01.2023, a report has been received from the Range Officer, Dhekiajuli Range regarding illegal construction of a sluice gate inside the Charduar RF by the Executive Engineer, Udalguri-Mazbat Irrigation Division, Udalguri (BTR) under Siloni Bund Flow Irrigation Scheme 2013-14 (Copy enclosed as Annexure-20). After that the following action has been taken by the DFO, Sonitpur West Division, Tezpur.
	On 19.01.2023, the DFO wrote a letter to the Executive Engineer, Udalguri- Mazbat Irrigation Division, Udalguri regarding illegal construction work carried out within Charduar RF without prior permission from the authority which violated FC Act,1980 with a direction to FRO, Dhekiajuli Range to stop such construction works inside Charduar RF. (Copy enclosed as Annexure-21).
	As informed by DFO, WAWL Division vide letter No B/WAWL/Eco-sensitive Zone/2023/464-467 dated 10.03.2023 that a Sluice gate has been constructed inside Charduar RF which falls under Eco-sensitive Zone (ESZ) of Sonai Rupai WL Sanctuary, DFO Sonitpur has initiated action in the matter and instructed to Executive Engineer, Udalguri- Mazbat Irrigation Division, Udalguri vide letter no FSWT/B/FCA,1980/ Diversion proposal/Gen/2023/1297-99 dated 13.03.2023, not to take up such construction inside RF area without prior approval from the authority under section 2 of FC Act,1980. (Copy enclosed as Annexure-22).
	In response to this office letter dated 19-01-2023, the Executive Engineer, Udalguri Mazbat Division, (Irrigation), Udalguri informed vide his letter no A/91/UMD/2022-23/710 Dated 14/03/2023. That work has been executed after issuing formal official Administrative Approval and Technical Sanctioned by the competent authority of Irrigation department. (Copy enclosed as Annexure-23)
	After that, this office wrote a letter vide No. FSWT/B/FCA,1980/Violation/ Gen/2023/1350, dtd. 15-03-2023 to the Executive Engineer, Udalguri Mazbat Division,(Irrigation), Udalguri to submit the list of the officers under whose service tenure the work was executed right from the submission of the said proposal along with the detail of the plan & estimate of the said project for serving notices to the delinquent officers who have violated the provision of FC Act, 1980 (Copy enclosed as Annexure-24). But, no information has been received by this office to date.
Also, this office issued a letter to the Executive Engineer, Udalguri Mazbat Division, (Irrigation), Udalguri vide No. FSWT/B/FCA,1980/Violation/ Gen/ 2023/1348-49, dtd. 15-03-2023 informing that the Irrigation Department could not obtain necessary clearance from the competent authority i.e. from the Ministry of Environment & Forest, Govt. of India for the construction of a sluice gate inside Charduar RF, which is a violation of FC Act, 1980. Moreover, the Executive Engineer was informed that the area also falls within the Eco-Sensitive Zone of Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary, hence it also violates the guidelines of the Eco-Sensitive Zone also. Further, the Executive Engineer was requested to stop such unauthorized activity inside the Charduar RF & dismantle all such infrastructure available in the said location (Copy enclosed as Annexure-25).	
2024	Further, a complaint under Section 15 (1) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules 2023 for violating the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (Amended upto 2023) has been issued to the Executive Engineer, Udalguri-Mazbat Irrigation Division, Udalguri Sonitpur, Tezpur vide letter No. FSWT/B/FC Act, 1980/2024/4825-26, dtd.29/06/2024 (Copy enclosed as Annexure-26).

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