

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
EASTERN ZONE BENCH AT KOLKATA**

**ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 166 OF 2025/EZ**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

S.D. LODHA AND ANR.

... APPLICANTS

VERSUS

STATE OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH AND ORS.

... RESPONDENTS

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THROUGH



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**PLACE: KOLKATA/NEW DELHI**

**DATE: 29.08.2025**

**SYNOPSIS**

The present Original Application is being filed under Sections 14 and 15 read with Section 20 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 raising a substantial question relating to the environment concerning non-forest activities inside the Drupang Reserve Forest Papumpare District, Arunachal Pradesh in absolute violation of the provisions of Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. That the Drupang Forest is declared a notified Reserved Forest vide Notification No. FOR.233/78 issued on dated 16.08.1978. Although the Forest Department, Arunachal Pradesh is fully aware of all the non-forest activities occurring inside the Drupang Reserved Forest without obtaining the mandatory Forest Clearances, no measures have been taken till date either to prevent them or to restore the affected area. The Applicant herein submits that the following ongoing illegal non-forest activities are occurring inside the Drupang Reserve Forest:

- a) Unauthorized Construction of Roads** – That a total 28.28 ha of forest land is proposed to be diverted from the Drupang Reserve Forest for the construction of double lane road to provide airport connectivity between Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar and Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Durpang and the same has been sanctioned by the Public Works Department (PWD), Naharlagun Division, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar without obtaining any clearances as mandated. That the unauthorized construction of the road within Drupang Reserve Forest is being undertaken by PWD, Naharlagun Division, Arunachal Pradesh, the Respondent No. 6 herein. The RTI response dated 20.03.2025 received from the Forest Department clearly states that no Forest Clearance has been granted for construction of roads inside the forest area. That the RTI Reply dated 23.07.2025 further lists out other illegal and unauthorized construction of roads

within Drupang Reserve for which no forest clearances are obtained. Thus the RTI response categorically states that no Forest Clearance has been granted for such road construction inside the Drupang Reserved Forest and the same are evident as established by a comparison of Google Earth Imagery from 2021 and 2024 as well as pictorial evidences as submitted by the Applicants herein. The Applicants also submit that there are other three roads namely, (a) New road from Kukurjan (Hollongi) to Magoni area, (b) Existing road from NH-415 to Magoriang (Magoning), (c) Construction of link road Tarajuli to Drupang which are illegally constructed within the Drupang Reserve Forest as the same has been undertaken without obtaining any prior Forest Clearance as mandated as recorded by the RTI Response dated 23.07.2025 from the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Banderdewa Forest Division.

**b) Illegal Earth Cutting and encroachments** - Further, illegal earth cutting activities and other forms of encroachment is taking place within the Drupang Reserved Forest, as is evident from the Google Earth Imageries available on present date. These illegal activities stand confirmed in the RTI response dated 30.01.2025 received by the Applicants categorically states that 458.436 ha of the Drupang Reserve Forest has been encroached upon the last 20 years and the total number of complaints received regarding encroachment are 351. That large-scale encroachment has occurred within the Drupang Reserve Forest over the years, and despite repeated complaints, the illegal activities continue to persist without any effective action from the concerned authorities. The said response also reveals that, despite being fully aware of such violations, the Forest Department has remained a passive spectator and has failed to initiate any action to curb or prevent these unlawful activities.

**Evidences showing no Forest Clearance Obtained for unauthorized construction of road in Drupang Reserve Forest:**

- i. The Applicants herein submit that the RTI Response dated 20.03.2025 received from the Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Itanagar clearly states that as on present date, no clearance has been granted to the PWD Naharlagun Division, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar for the construction of double lane road within the Drupang Reserve Forest.
- ii. Further, the RTI Response dated 23.06.2025 from the Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD, Naharlagun Division, indicates that the process for obtaining Forest Clearance for the construction of road is still "Under Process."
- iii. Furthermore, the RTI Response dated 23.07.2025 from the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Banderdewa Forest Division provided a list of ongoing construction of roads and existing roads within Drupang Reserve Forest which is illegally constructed without obtaining any forest clearances.

Thus, it is clearly evident from the above RTI Responses received from the Forest department as well as the Project Proponent which clearly states that the construction of the double lane road to provide airport connectivity between Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar and Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Durpang as well as the other three roads namely, (a) New road from Kukurjan (Hollongi) to Magoni area, (b) Existing road from NH-415 to Magoriang (Magoning), (c) Construction of link road Tarajuli to Drupang are illegally constructed within the Drupang Reserve Forest as the same has been undertaken without obtaining any prior Forest Clearance as mandated.

**No necessary action taken by the Competent Authorities despite repeated Representations:**

In light of the ongoing encroachment within the Drupang Reserve Forest, the Applicants have submitted multiple representations to the concerned authorities, urging them to take appropriate action to halt the illegal encroachment and degradation of forest land.

- i. **08.01.2025** – Representation to the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh.
- ii. **05.02.2025** – Representation to Secretary of the MoEF&CC.
- iii. **18.03.2025** – Representations to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Department of Environment and Forests.
- iv. **26.05.2025** – A Joint Representation to the Secretary of MoEF&CC, Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Chief Secretary of Arunachal Pradesh and PCCF & (HoFF), Department of Forest, Arunachal Pradesh.

However, despite repeated representations and complaints, no necessary action has been taken by any of the concerned authorities to address the issue. As a result, the illegal encroachment continues persistently, without any statutory approval, in blatant violation of Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980.

Hence, the present Original Application.

## LIST OF DATES

<b>16.08.1978</b>	<p>Drupang Reserve Forest is declared a notified Reserved Forest since 1978 by a Gazette Notification No. FOR.233/78 issued on dated 16.08.1978. That despite being fully aware that area in question is a Reserve Forest which accords the highest level of protection, massive illegal encroachment is undertaken in blatant violation of the Forest Act. That the forest land is being used for non-forest purposes without obtaining any requisite clearances from the Government.</p>
<b>07.12.1988</b>	<p>The Government of India in the erstwhile Ministry of Food and Agriculture enunciated the National Forest Policy on 07.12.1988. The principal aim of the policy is to ensure environmental stability and maintenance of ecological balance including atmospheric equilibrium which are vital for sustenance of all life forms, human, animal and plant. It mandates that forest land should not be treated merely as a resource readily available to be utilised for various schemes and programmes, but as a national asset which requires to be properly safeguarded for providing sustain benefits to the entire community as stated in Para No. 4.4.1 of the policy.</p> <p><i>"4.4.1 Forest land or land with tree cover should not be -treated merely as a resource readily available to be utilised for various projects and programmes, but as a national asset which requires to be properly safeguarded for providing sustained benefits to the entire community. Diversion of forest land for any non-forest purpose should be subject to the most careful examinations by specialists from the standpoint of social and environmental costs and benefits. Construction of dams and reservoirs, mining and industrial development and expansion of agriculture should be consistent with the needs for conservation of trees and forests. Projects which involve such diversion should at least provide in their</i></p>

	<i>investment budget, funds for regeneration/compensatory afforestation”.</i>
<b>07.01.2025</b>	RTI Application dated 07.01.2025 was filed by the Applicants before the Divisional Forest Officer, Banderdewa seeking information regarding the total number of complaints raised regarding the illegal encroachment within the Drupang Reserve Forest.
<b>08.01.2025</b>	The Applicants made a representation to the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh highlighting the issue of illegal encroachment within the Drupang Reserve Forest.
<b>30.01.2025</b>	That the RTI Reply dated 30.01.2025 received from Divisional Forest Officer, Banderdewa clearly states that total area of Drupang Reserve Forest that has been encroached upon the last 20 years is 458.436 ha and the total number of complaints received regarding encroachment are 351. This clearly demonstrates that large-scale encroachment has occurred within the Drupang Reserve Forest over the years, and despite repeated complaints, the illegal activities continue to persist without any effective action from the concerned authorities.
<b>05.02.2025</b>	The Applicants made a representation to the Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change highlighting the issue of illegal encroachment within the Drupang Reserve Forest.
<b>27.02.2025</b>	The Applicants has filed RTI Application dated 27.02.2025 to the Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD, Naharlagun Division, Arunachal Pradesh seeking information with regard to the Forest Clearance obtained under section 2 of the Forest Act for conducting non-forest activities within the Drupang Reserve Forest.

<b>18.03.2025</b>	The Applicants made a representation to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Department of Environment and Forests highlighting the issue of illegal encroachment within the Drupang Reserve Forest.
<b>19.03.2025</b>	The Applicant has filed a RTI Application to the Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Itanagar on 19.03.2025 thereby seeking information with regard to the Forest Clearance obtained under section 2 of the Forest Act for conducting non-forest activities within the Drupang Reserve Forest.
<b>20.03.2025</b>	<p>The RTI Response dated 20.03.2025 received from the DFO, Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Itanagar clearly states that as on present date, no clearance has been granted to the PWD Naharlagun Division, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar for the construction of double lane road within the Drupang Reserve Forest:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>"As on forenoon of 19.03.2025, In-Principle approval has not been granted. The same can also be seen on Parivesh 2.0 Portal".</i></b></p>
<b>26.05.2025</b>	The Applicants made a Joint Representation to the Secretary of MoEF&CC, Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Chief Secretary of Arunachal Pradesh and PCCF & (HoFF), Department of Forest, Arunachal Pradesh highlighting the issue of illegal encroachment within the Drupang Reserve Forest.
<b>05.06.2025</b>	The Applicants have filed another RTI Application dated 05.06.2025 to the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Banderdewa Forest Division seeking information regarding the details of the existing and ongoing construction within Drupang Reserve Forest and whether forest clearance has been granted for the same.

<b>23.06.2025</b>	The RTI Response dated 23.06.2025 from the Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD, Naharlagun Division, in reply to the RTI Application dated 27.02.2025 indicates that the process for obtaining Forest Clearance is still <b>"Under Process."</b> Thus, it is clear that the construction of the road has been done within the Drupang Reserve Forest without obtaining the required Forest Clearance.
<b>23.07.2025</b>	That the RTI Response dated 23.07.2025 from the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Banderdewa Forest Division in reply to the RTI Application dated 05.06.2025 provided a list of ongoing construction of roads and existing roads within Drupang Reserve Forest:  <i>"As per the Range Officers report:</i>  <i>1. <b>Double Lane road to provide Airport Connectivity from Donyi Polo Airport Hollongi to Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Drupang.</b></i>  <i>2. New road from Kukurjan (Hollongi) to Magoni area.</i>  <i>3. Existing road from NH-415 to Magoriang (Magoning)</i>  <i>4. Construction of link road Tarajuli to Drupang.</i>  <i><b>No forest clearance obtained for the above projects. However, diversion proposal has already submitted against the project at Sl. No.1".</b></i>
<b>29.08.2025</b>	Hence, the present Original Applicant.

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL**  
**EASTERN ZONE BENCH AT KOLKATA**  
**ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF 2025**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**1. S.D LODHA**

S/o Koniyang Loda, aged about 40 years.

R/o E-Sector, P.O- Itanagar-791111 District - Papumpare (ICR),  
Arunachal Pradesh.

Mob: +91 7085972500 Email: [sdlonda@gmail.com](mailto:sdlonda@gmail.com)

**2. NABAM SIMON**

S/o of Late Nabam Talam, aged about 40 years.

R/o, C-Sector, P.O-Itanagar-791111; District - Papumpare (ICR),  
Arunachal Pradesh.

Mob: +91 9436060009 Email: [nabamsimon4612@gmail.com](mailto:nabamsimon4612@gmail.com)

**...APPLICANTS**

**VERSUS**

**1. STATE OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

Through the Chief Secretary,  
Civil Secretariat, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Block -2,  
Itanagar – 791111, Arunachal Pradesh  
Email: [cs-arunachal@nic.in](mailto:cs-arunachal@nic.in)

**2. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE  
CHANGE, ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

Through the PCCF & HOFF  
P Sector, Zero Point Tinali, Itanagar,  
Papum Pare, Arunachal Pradesh - 791111.  
Email: [pccfnsecy-arn@nic.in](mailto:pccfnsecy-arn@nic.in)

**3. DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, ITANAGAR**

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Chandan Nagar, Itanagar  
Arunachal Pradesh – 791113.  
Email: [dc-cc-arn@nic.in](mailto:dc-cc-arn@nic.in)

**4. DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, PAPUMPARE**

Yupia, Papum Pare District Arunachal Pradesh - 791111

Email: [dc-ppare-arn@nic.in](mailto:dc-ppare-arn@nic.in)

**5. UNION OF INDIA**

Through the Secretary

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road,

New Delhi – 110003.

Email: [secy-moef@nic.in](mailto:secy-moef@nic.in)

**6. PWD, NAHARLAGUN DIVISION, GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH.**

Through the Executive Engineer,

Naharlagun – 791110, Arunachal Pradesh.

Email: [eenaharlagun-pwd-am@nic.in](mailto:eenaharlagun-pwd-am@nic.in)

**...RESPONDENTS****MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOW WITH:**

- I. The address of the Applicant's Counsels are given above for service of notices of this Original Application.
- II. The addresses of the Respondents are given above for service of notices of this Original Application.
- III. The present Original Application is being filed under Sections 14 and 15 read with Section 20 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 raising a substantial question relating to the environment concerning non-forest activities inside the Drupang Reserve Forest Papumpare District, Arunachal Pradesh in absolute violation of the provisions of Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. That the Drupang Forest is declared a notified Reserved Forest vide Notification No. FOR.233/78 issued on dated 16.08.1978. Although the Forest Department, Arunachal Pradesh is fully aware of all the non-forest activities occurring inside the Drupang Reserved Forest without

obtaining the mandatory Forest Clearances, no measures have been taken till date either to prevent them or to restore the affected area. The Applicant herein submits that the following ongoing illegal non-forest activities are occurring inside the Drupang Reserve Forest:

**a) Unauthorized Construction of Roads** – That a total 28.28 ha of forest land is proposed to be diverted from the Drupang Reserve Forest for the construction of double lane road to provide airport connectivity between Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar and Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Durpang and the same has been sanctioned by the Respondent No.6, Public Works Department (PWD), Naharlagun Division, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar without obtaining any clearances as mandated. The Applicants also submit that there are other three roads namely, (a) New road from Kukurjan (Hollongi) to Magoni area, (b) Existing road from NH-415 to Magoriang (Magoning), (c) Construction of link road Tarajuli to Drupang which are illegally constructed within the Drupang Reserve Forest as the same has been undertaken without obtaining any prior Forest Clearance as mandated as recorded by the RTI Response dated 23.07.2025 from the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Banderdewa Forest Division.

**b) Illegal Earth Cutting and encroachments** - Further, illegal earth cutting activities and other forms of encroachment is taking place within the Drupang Reserved Forest, as is evident from the Google Earth Imageries available on present date. These illegal activities stand confirmed in the RTI response dated 30.01.2025 received by the Applicants categorically states that 458.436 ha of the Drupang Reserve Forest has been encroached upon the last 20 years and the total number of complaints received regarding encroachment are 351. That large-scale encroachment has occurred within the Drupang Reserve Forest over the years, and despite repeated complaints, the illegal activities continue to persist without any

effective action from the concerned authorities. The said response also reveals that, despite being fully aware of such violations, the Forest Department has remained a passive spectator and has failed to initiate any action to curb or prevent these unlawful activities.

**ARRAY OF PARTIES:**

1. The Applicant No. 1 is a resident of Itanagar, District Papumpare, Arunachal Pradesh. He is an Advocate by profession and also a committed environmental activist who has been actively working for the protection of the environment in the State. That the applicant No. 1 presently serves as the Chairman of Youth Mission for Clean River – Arunachal Pradesh (YMCR-AP), a registered society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, bearing Registration No. SR/ITA/7061 which undertakes various initiatives such as plantation drives, river-cleaning programmes, and awareness campaigns on solid waste management across the State. The Applicant No. 1 is filing this Petition in bona fide public interest for the protection of the environment, ecology, and public health.
2. The Applicant No. 2, is also a resident of District Papumpare, Arunachal Pradesh who is the Chairman of the Socio-Economic Educational Development Society (SEEDS), a registered society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 bearing Registration No. SR/ITA/4971, valid up to 07th April 2026 which actively works in plantation drives, environmental awareness campaigns, waste management initiatives, and charitable programmes. The Applicant No. 2 is filing this Petition in bona fide public interest to safeguard the fragile ecology of the Drupang Reserve Forest and to ensure strict compliance with statutory environmental laws.

3. The Respondent No. 1 is the State of Arunachal Pradesh, represented through its Chief Secretary, within whose jurisdiction the large-scale illegal and unauthorized road construction and encroachments are being carried out inside the Drupang Reserved Forest. Respondent No. 2, Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Arunachal Pradesh, represented through the PCCF & HOFF is the authority who looks after the conservation and protection of forests within the State of Gujarat. Respondent No. 3 Deputy Commissioner of Itanagar and Respondent No. 4, Deputy Commissioner Papum Pare are the administrative authorities within whose jurisdiction the Drupang Reserve Forest falls. The Respondent No. 5 is the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), represented through its Secretary is the competent authority to grant approvals/clearances under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for any construction or use of forest land for non-forest purposes. That no such approval has been granted to date, yet illegal construction activities have commenced within the Drupang Reserved Forest. Respondent No. 6, Public Works Department (PWD), Naharlagun Division, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, represented through its Executive Engineer who is responsible for the unauthorized construction of road within the Drupang Reserve Forest without obtaining any valid approval/clearances as mandated under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in blatant violation of law and order.

**FACTS LEADING TO THE FILING OF PRESENT APPLICATION:**

4. The present Original Application is being filed under Sections 14 and 15 read with Section 20 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 raising a substantial question relating to the environment concerning non-forest activities inside the Drupang Reserve Forest Papumpare District, Arunachal Pradesh in absolute violation of the provisions of Section 2 of

the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. That the Drupang Forest is declared a notified Reserved Forest vide Notification No. FOR.233/78 issued on dated 16.08.1978. Although the Forest Department, Arunachal Pradesh is fully aware of all the non-forest activities occurring inside the Drupang Reserved Forest without obtaining the mandatory Forest Clearances, no measures have been taken till date either to prevent them or to restore the affected area. The Applicant herein submits that the following ongoing illegal non-forest activities are occurring inside the Drupang Reserve Forest:

**A. Unauthorized Construction of Road** - That a total 28.28 ha of forest land is proposed to be diverted from the Drupang Reserve Forest for the construction of double lane road to provide airport connectivity between Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar and Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Durpang and the same has been sanctioned by the Respondent No.6, Public Works Department (PWD), Naharlagun Division, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar without obtaining any clearances as mandated. The RTI response dated 20.03.2025 received from the Forest Department clearly states that no Forest Clearance has been granted for construction of roads inside the forest area. That the RTI Reply dated 23.07.2025 further lists out other illegal and unauthorized construction of roads within Drupang Reserve for which no forest clearances are obtained and the same are evident as established by a comparison of Google Earth Imagery from 2021 and 2024 as well as pictorial evidences as submitted by the Applicants herein. The Applicants also submit that there are other three roads namely, (a) New road from Kukurjan (Hollongi) to Magoni area, (b) Existing road from NH-415 to Magoriang (Magoning), (c) Construction of link road Tarajuli to Drupang which are illegally constructed within the Drupang

Reserve Forest as the same has been undertaken without obtaining any prior Forest Clearance as mandated as recorded by the RTI Response dated 23.07.2025 from the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Banderdewa Forest Division.

**B. Illegal Earth Cutting and encroachments** - Further, illegal earth cutting activities and other forms of encroachment is taking place within the Drupang Reserved Forest, as is evident from the Google Earth Imageries available on present date. These illegal activities stand confirmed in the RTI response dated 30.01.2025 received by the Applicants categorically states that 458.436 ha of the Drupang Reserve Forest has been encroached upon the last 20 years and the total number of complaints received regarding encroachment are 351. That large-scale encroachment has occurred within the Drupang Reserve Forest over the years, and despite repeated complaints, the illegal activities continue to persist without any effective action from the concerned authorities. The said response also reveals that, despite being fully aware of such violations, the Forest Department has remained a passive spectator and has failed to initiate any action to curb or prevent these unlawful activities.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRUPANG RESERVE FOREST:**

5. The Applicants herein submit that the Drupang Forest was declared a notified Reserved Forest in 1978 by a Gazette Notification No. FOR.233/78 issued on dated 16.08.1978. That the Drupang Reserve Forest is situated in Papum Pare District of Arunachal Pradesh with an area admeasuring 420.75 sq.km approximately. That despite being fully aware that Drupang is a notified Reserve Forest which accords the highest level of protection, unauthorized construction of roads and earth cutting and other illegal encroachment is undertaken in blatant violation

of the Act. That the forest land is being used for non-forest purposes without obtaining any requisite clearances from the Government.

Copy of the Gazette Notification No. FOR.233/78 issued on dated 16.08.1978 is annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE A/1.**

**ILLEGAL CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS WITHIN DRUPANG**

**RESERVE FOREST:**

6. The Applicants herein submit that unauthorized and illegal construction of road is being carried out inside the Drupang Reserve Forest by the Public Works Department (PWD), Naharlagun Division, Respondent No.6 herein, without obtaining any prior approval of the Central Government.
7. That the Respondent No. 6 is undertaking illegal and unauthorized construction of roads within the Drupang Reserve Forest, specifically between coordinates 27.079839°N to 27.098262°N latitude and 93.730762°E to 93.752646°E longitude, at altitudes ranging from 209.4 to 302.0 meters.
8. That a total 28.28 ha of forest land is proposed to be diverted from the Drupang Reserve Forest for the construction of double lane road to provide airport connectivity between Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar and Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Durpang and the same has been sanctioned by the Public Works Department (PWD), Naharlagun Division, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar without obtaining any mandatory clearances.
9. The Applicants also submit that there are other illegal and unauthorized construction of roads within Drupang Reserve Forest without obtaining any forest Clearances as listed out in the RTI Reply dated 23.07.2025 namely, (a) New road from Kukurjan (Hollongi) to Magoni area, (b)

Existing road from NH-415 to Magoriang (Magoning), (c) Construction of link road Tarajuli to Drupang.

Copy of the images taken by the Applicants showing illegal and unauthorized construction of roads within the Drupang Reserve Forest are annexed herewith as **ANNEXURES A/2.**

10. In this regard it is submitted that the Applicants have collected the geographical coordinates of the Drupang Reserve Forest area. Thereafter, using remote sensing, GIS technique and Google Earth time-series satellite data analysis, the Applicants conducted mapping work and found that massive encroachment has been undertaken within the forest land. Subsequently, the Applicants meticulously conducted a comparative analysis of the satellite imagery captured in 2021 and 2024. The imagery from 2021 vividly depicts lush green dense forest. However, upon comparing it with the image from 2024, a startling revelation emerges. The once green dense forest area has been massively encroached, and illegal roads are constructed near National Highway to Holongi thereby casting a grim shadow over the ecological integrity of the Drupang Reserve Forest area.

Copy of the Google Earth Images of 2021 and 2024 taken by the Applicant of the Drupang Reserve Forest showing illegal construction of roads are annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE/3.**

**NO FOREST CLEARANCE OBTAINED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD IN THE DRUPANG RESERVE FOREST:**

11. That in this regard, the Applicant has filed an RTI Application to the Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Itanagar on 19.03.2025 thereby seeking information with regard to the Forest Clearance obtained under section 2 of the Forest Act for conducting non-

forest activities within the Drupang Reserve Forest. That the RTI Response dated 20.03.2025 received from the Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Itanagar clearly states that as on present date, no clearance has been granted to the PWD Naharlagun Division, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar for the construction of double lane road within the Drupang Reserve Forest:

***"As on forenoon of 19.03.2025, In-Principle approval has not been granted. The same can also be seen on Parivesh 2.0 Portal".***

Copy of the RTI Response dated 20.03.2025 received from the Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Itanagar is annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE A/4.**

12. Further, the Applicants has filed RTI Application dated 27.02.2025 to the Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD, Naharlagun Division, Arunachal Pradesh seeking information with regard to the Forest Clearance obtained under section 2 of the Forest Act for conducting non-forest activities within the Drupang Reserve Forest. The RTI Response dated 23.06.2025 from the Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD, Naharlagun Division, indicates that the process for obtaining Forest Clearance is still **"Under Process."**

Copy of the RTI Response dated 23.06.2025 received from the Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD, Naharlagun Division is annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE A/5.**

13. Furthermore, the Applicants have filed another RTI Application dated 05.06.2025 to the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Banderdewa Forest Division seeking information regarding the details of the existing and ongoing construction within Drupang Reserve Forest and whether forest clearance has been granted for the same. That the RTI Response dated 23.07.2025 from the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Banderdewa Forest

Division provided a list of ongoing construction of roads and existing roads within Drupang Reserve Forest:

*"As per the Range Officers report:*

**5. Double Lane road to provide Airport Connectivity from Donyi Polo Airport Hollongi to Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Drupang.**

6. New road from Kukurjan (Hollongi) to Magoni area.

7. Existing road from NH-415 to Magoriang (Magoning)

8. Construction of link road Tarajuli to Drupang.

**No forest clearance obtained for the above projects.**

**However, diversion proposal has already submitted against the project at Sl. No.1".**

Copy of the RTI Response dated 23.07.2025 from the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Banderdewa Forest Division is annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE A/6.**

14. Thus, it is clearly evident from the above RTI Responses received from the Forest department as well as the Project Proponent that the construction of the double lane road to provide airport connectivity between Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar and Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Durpang within the Drupang Reserve Forest is absolutely illegal as the same has been undertaken without obtaining any prior Forest Clearance as mandated.
15. In addition, there are other illegal construction of roads within Drupang Reserve Forest without obtaining any forest Clearances as listed out in the RTI Reply dated 23.07.2025 namely, (a) New road from Kukurjan (Hollongi) to Magoni area, (b) Existing road from NH-415 to Magoriang (Magoning), (c) Construction of link road Tarajuli to Drupang. The Applicants submit that photographs taken by them, along with Google Earth imagery, clearly demonstrate the large-scale illegal construction

of roads within the Drupang Reserved Forest. These activities are being carried out without obtaining any valid Forest Clearances, as further corroborated by the RTI responses received by the Applicants.

**ILLEGAL EARTH CUTTING AND OTHER ENCROACHMENTS IN THE DRUPANG RESERVE FOREST:**

16. The Applicants herein submit that a RTI Application dated 07.01.2025 was filed by the Applicants before the Divisional Forest Officer, Banderdewa seeking information regarding the total number of complaints raised regarding the illegal encroachment within the Drupang Reserve Forest. That the RTI Reply dated 30.01.2025 received from Divisional Forest Officer, Banderdewa clearly states that total area of Drupang Reserve Forest that has been encroached upon the last 20 years is 458.436 ha and the total number of complaints received regarding encroachment are 351. This clearly demonstrates that large-scale encroachment has occurred within the Drupang Reserve Forest over the years, and despite repeated complaints, the illegal activities continue to persist without any effective action from the concerned authorities. The Applicants submit that large-scale hill cutting operations, resulting in vertical cuts of approximately 15–20 meters in height, have been illegally carried out by deploying heavy machinery for excavation and earth removal, thereby causing grave and irreparable damage to the forest ecosystem.

Copy of the RTI Response dated 30.01.2025 received from Divisional Forest Officer, Banderdewa is annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE A/7**.

17. That extensive earth cutting and other encroachments within the Drupang Reserved Forest are clearly established through the latest satellite imagery available on Google Earth on present date and are further corroborated by the RTI response dated 30.01.2025 received by the Applicants. The said RTI response also makes it evident that, despite

being fully aware of these illegal activities, the Forest Department has remained a mute spectator and has failed to take any necessary action to prevent or stop such violations and restore the same.

Copy of the latest satellite imageries available on Google Earth showing massive earth cutting in the Drupang Reserve Forest are annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE A/8.**

Copy of the images taken by the Applicants showing illegal earth cutting and encroachments in the Drupang Reserve Forest are annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE A/9.**

**BLATANT VIOLATION OF THE FOREST (CONSERVATION) ACT, 1980 AND VAN (SANRAKSHAN EVAM SAMVARDHAN) ADHINIYAM, 1980:**

18. That the environmental damage caused by these illegal construction of road, earth cutting and other encroachments within the Drupang Reserve Forest is extensive and potentially irreversible. The construction has severely disrupted wildlife habitats. The steep vertical cuts made in the hillsides have created unstable slopes that pose serious risks of soil erosion and landslides, particularly during this monsoon season. That such illegal activities within the heart of the Reserve Forest without obtaining any prior approval from the Government constitute clear violations of Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980:

*"Restriction on the de-reservation of forests or use of forest land for non-forest purpose.—*

*Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force in a State, no State Government or other authority shall make, except with the prior approval of the Central Government, any order directing—*

*(i) that any reserved forest (within the meaning of the expression "reserved forest" in any law for the time being in force in that State) or any portion thereof, shall cease to be reserved:*

***(ii) that any forest land or any portion thereof may be used for any non-forest purpose.***

*Explanation.—For the purposes of this section "non-forest purpose" means the breaking up or clearing of any forest land or portion thereof for any purpose other than re-afforestation."*

19. That Section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 also states that:

***2. Restriction on the dereservation of forests or use of forest land for non-forest purpose.—1[(1)] Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force in a State, no State Government or other authority shall make, except with the prior approval of the Central Government, any order directing—***

*(i) that any reserved forest (within the meaning of the expression "reserved forest" in any law for the time being in force in that State) or any portion thereof, shall cease to be reserved;*

***(ii) that any forest land or any portion thereof may be used for any non-forest purpose.***

*2[(iii) that any forest land or any portion thereof may be assigned by way of lease or otherwise to any private person or to any authority, corporation, agency or any other organization 3[subject to such terms and conditions, as the Central Government may, by order, specify];*

*(iv) that any forest land or any portion thereof may be cleared of trees which have grown naturally in that land or portion, for the purpose of using it for reafforestation.]"*

**NO NECESSARY ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES DESPITE REPEATED REPRESENTATIONS:**

20. In light of the ongoing encroachment within the Drupang Reserve Forest, the Applicants have submitted multiple representations to the concerned authorities, urging them to take appropriate action to halt the illegal encroachment and degradation of forest land.

- i. **08.01.2025** – Representation to the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh.
- ii. **05.02.2025** – Representation to Secretary of the MoEF&CC.

- iii. **18.03.2025** – Representations to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Department of Environment and Forests.
  - iv. **26.05.2025** – A Joint Representation to the Secretary of MoEF&CC, Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Chief Secretary of Arunachal Pradesh and PCCF & (HoFF), Department of Forest, Arunachal Pradesh.
21. However, despite repeated representations and complaints, no concrete action has been taken by any of the concerned authorities to address the issue. As a result, the illegal encroachment continues persistently, without any statutory approval, in blatant violation of Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

Copy of the Representations/Complaints dated 08.01.2025, 05.02.2025, 18.03.2025 and 26.05.2025 are annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE A/10 (COLLY)**.

**THE ILLEGAL ENCROACHMENT IS IN VIOLATION OF THE NATIONAL FOREST POLICY, 1988:**

22. The Applicants herein submit that the National Forest Policy mandates that forest land should not be treated merely as a resource readily available to be utilised for various schemes and programmes, but as a national asset which requires to be properly safeguarded for providing sustain benefits to the entire community as stated in Para No. 4.4.1 of the policy.

*"4.4.1 Forest land or land with tree cover should not be -treated merely as a resource readily available to be utilised for various projects and programmes, but as a national asset which requires to be properly safeguarded for providing sustained benefits to the entire community. Diversion of forest land for any non-forest purpose should be subject to the most careful examinations by specialists from the standpoint of social and environmental costs and benefits. Construction of dams and reservoirs, mining and*

*industrial development and expansion of agriculture should be consistent with the needs for conservation of trees and forests. Projects which involve such diversion should at least provide in their investment budget, funds for regeneration/compensatory afforestation”.*

Copy of the National Forest Policy, 1988 is annexed herewith as

**ANNEXURE A/11.**

23. In this regard, the Applicants herein submit that the Hon’ble Supreme Court in the matter titled **T.N. Godavarman Thirumulkpad v. Union of India WP(C) 202 of 1995** vide order dated 12.12.1996 issued certain directions in the light of the provisions of the Forest Act, 1980:

*"In view of the meaning of the word "forest" in the Act, it is obvious that prior approval of the Central Government is required for any non-forest activity within the area of any "forest". In accordance with Section 2 of the Act, all on-going activity within any forest in any State throughout the country, without the prior approval of the Central Government, must cease forthwith”.*

24. The Applicants further submit that the Hon’ble Supreme Court in the matter of **T.N. Godavarman Thirumulpad v. Union of India, (2006) 1 SCC 1** vide order dated 26.09.2005 has held that:

*"72. The Forest Policy has a statutory flavour. The non-fulfilment of the aforesaid principle aim would be violative of Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution.”*

25. Further, the Hon’ble Supreme Court in the matter titled **Lafarge Umiam Mining (P) Ltd. vs. Union of India, (2011) 7 SCC 338** declared that National Forest Policy is to be read as a part of the provisions of the Environment Protection Act, 1986 read together with the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980:

*"122. The time has come for this Court to declare and we hereby declare that the National Forest Policy, 1988 which lays down far-reaching principles must necessarily govern the grant of permissions under Section 2 of the*

*Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as the same provides the road map to ecological protection and improvement under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The principles/guidelines mentioned in the National Forest Policy, 1988 should be read as part of the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 read together with the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. This direction is required to be given because there is no machinery even today established for implementation of the said National Forest Policy, 1988 read with the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 confers a power coupled with duty and, thus, it is incumbent on the Central Government, as hereinafter indicated, to appoint an appropriate authority, preferably in the form of regulator, at the State and at the Central level for ensuring implementation of the National Forest Policy, 1988”.*

**FAILURE OF THE FOREST DEPARTMENT IN ITS DUTY AS CUSTODIAN OF FOREST THEREBY COMMITTING A PATENT BREACH OF PUBLIC TRUST:**

26. It is crucial to note that despite repeated Representations/Complaints to the PCCF, Department of Forest, Arunachal Pradesh, they have failed to take any necessary action to halt the massive encroachment within the Reserve Forest without obtaining any prior approval of the Government in absolute violation of the observation made by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in **Narender Singh vs. Divesh Bhutani (2022 SCC OnLine SC 899)** has held:

*"49. .... After all, **the forest department is the custodian of forests**. It is this department of the State which is under an obligation to protect the forests for upholding the constitutional mandate”.*

It is important to emphasize that the Forest Department has severely failed in its role as the custodian of the forest, in clear violation of the Narender Singh vs. Divesh Bhutani wherein the Hon'ble Supreme Court has clearly stated that the department is constitutionally obligated to protect the forest, in upholding the constitutional mandate.

27. The Applicants herein submit that the Forest department despite being fully aware have committed a patent breach of public trust as held in **M.C. Mehta vs. Kamal Nath (1997) 1 SCC 388** whereby the Apex Court has held that that Public Trust Doctrine is part of the law of country and that the state is custodian of the natural resources:

***"The State is the trustee of all natural resources which are by nature meant for public use and enjoyment. Public at large is the beneficiary of the sea- shore, running waters, airs, forests and ecologically fragile lands. The State as a trustee is under a legal duty to protect the natural resources. These resources meant for public use cannot be converted into private ownership."***

28. It is further significant to note that such negligence and deliberate attempt on the part of the Forest Department is complete in disregard to the observations of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in **Common Cause vs. Union of India (1996) 6 SCC 667** wherein the it is held role of State under Public Trust Doctrine is to safeguard environment:

*"The Court has also invoked the "Doctrine of Public Trust" which is a doctrine of environmental law under which the natural resources such air, water, forest, lakes, rivers and wildlife are public properties "entrusted" to the Government for their safe and proper use and proper protection. Public Trust Law recognizes that some types of natural resources are held in trust by the Government for the benefit of the public. The doctrine enjoins upon the Government to protect the resources for the enjoyment of the general public rather than to permit their use for private ownership or commercial purposes. The "Doctrine of Public Trust" has been evolved so as to prevent unfair dealing with or dissipation of all natural resources..."*

29. The essence of the Public Trust Doctrine, the state as the trustee and its constitutional duty of State as the custodian and regulator in conservation of natural resources and improving environment is also laid emphasis by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in plethora of other judgments namely **Centre for Public Interest Litigation vs. Union of India**

**(2012) SCC 1: (2012) 1 KCCR 293 (SC), Intellectuals Forum vs. State of A.P (2006) 3 SCC 549), Centre for Environmental Law vs. Union of India (2013) 8 SCC 234, Fomento Resorts & Hotels Ltd. vs. Minguel Martins (2009) 3 SCC 571, Hinch Lal Tiwari vs. Kamala Devi (2001) 6 SCC 496** and in a number of other cases.

30. Since, there is a persistent illegal encroachment within the Drupang Reserve Forest, causing large scale environment degradation, hence, the Applicants who are concerned about the social and environmental issues in his region has repeatedly brought the present matter to the attention of the local authorities, however, no concrete action has been taken in this regard. The illegal execution of this project without mandatory statutory clearances not only threatens the fragile ecosystem of the reserve forest but also sets a dangerous precedent undermining the rule of law. It is, therefore, imperative for this Hon'ble Tribunal to intervene and issue immediate directions to halt further construction activities without any prior approval from the Government.

**IMPACT ON CLIMATE CHANGE AS A RESULT OF MASSIVE TREE**

**FELLING:**

31. In this regards, the Applicants herein submit that the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter tiled **T.N. Godavarman Thirumulpad vs. Union of India, (2006) 1 SCC 1** has stated the importance of conserving and managing existing natural forests and forest soils, which are very large stores of carbon, has been emphasised as it will significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions:

***84. ....Forests play an important role in environmental and economic sustainability. It takes note of the forests being consistently and seriously undervalued in economic and social terms. It recognises that the economic value of the ecosystem services of the forests is vast though it is extremely difficult to quantify. It takes note of the fact that generally much of the land-use decision that presently drives forest change takes relatively***

*little account of these values. **The country's forest resource is under tremendous pressure. Note has been taken of the fact that India's biological diversity is reflected in the heterogeneity of its forest cover. It is one of the twelve "megadiversity" countries of the world. India is also at the meeting zone of three major zones of three major biogeographic realms, namely, the Indo-Malayan (the richest in the world), the Eurasian and Afro-tropical. India also has the two richest biodiversity areas, one in the North-East and the other in the Western Ghats. The biological diversity is being conserved through a network of biosphere reserves, national parks and sanctuaries, however, the challenges for conservation emanate from population pressures, adverse impacts of industrialisation and intensifying threat from illegal trade.***

***85. The importance of conserving and managing existing natural forests and forest soils, which are very large stores of carbon, has been emphasised as it will significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. To develop and protect forests, a scientific management is necessary so as to enhance productivity, density and health. Forestry projects have to lay emphasis on management and rejuvenation of natural forests. The fragile ecosystems should be properly managed in order to safeguard the livelihood of millions of people.***

32. The Applicants herein submit that clearing forests has a devastating impact on climate change. Forests act as one of the largest natural carbon sinks, storing vast amounts of carbon in their trees, vegetation, and soils. When forests are cleared or degraded, this stored carbon is released into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide, directly contributing to the rise of greenhouse gas emissions. The loss of tree cover also reduces the capacity of forests to absorb future emissions, thereby weakening one of the most effective natural defenses against global warming. Deforestation further disrupts fragile ecosystems, leading to soil erosion, reduced rainfall, and loss of biodiversity—all of which worsen the effects of climate change. As forests play a crucial role in regulating

temperature and maintaining the global water cycle, their destruction accelerates extreme weather events such as floods, droughts, and heatwaves. Ultimately, clearing forests not only accelerates climate change but also endangers the present and future generation. In this regard, it is crucial to note that the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter titled **M.K. Ranjitsinh & Ors. vs. Union of India (2024 SCC OnLine SC 570)** vide order dated 21.03.2024 held that:

*"19. .... There is no single or umbrella legislation in India which relates to climate change and the attendant concerns. However, this does not mean that the people of India do not have a right against the adverse effects of climate change.*

*[...]*

*25. The right to health (which is a part of the right to life under Article 21) is impacted due to factors such as air pollution, shifts in vector-borne diseases, rising temperatures, droughts, shortages in food supplies due to crop failure, storms, and flooding. The inability of underserved communities to adapt to climate change or cope with its effects violates the right to life as well as the right to equality. This is better understood with the help of an example. If climate change and environmental degradation lead to acute food and water shortages in a particular area, poorer communities will suffer more than richer ones. The right to equality would undoubtedly be impacted in each of these instances.*

*26. Traditional activities such as fishing and hunting may be impacted by climate change, affecting the source of sustenance for such people. Further, the relationship that indigenous communities have with nature may be tied to their culture or religion. The destruction of their lands and forests or their displacement from their homes may result in a permanent loss of their unique culture. In these ways too, climate change may impact the constitutional guarantee of the right to equality.*

*27. The right to equality under Article 14 and the right to life under Article 21 must be appreciated in the context of the decisions of this Court, the actions and commitments of the state on the national and international level, and scientific consensus on climate change and its adverse effects. From these, it emerges that there is a right to be free from the adverse effects of climate*

*change. It is important to note that while giving effect to this right, courts must be alive to other rights of affected communities such as the right against displacement and allied rights. Different constitutional rights must be carefully considered before a decision is reached in a particular case”.*

### **GROUND**

33. That the instant Application is being filed on the following grounds amongst others that the Applicant may take up at the time of hearing:

- A. Because the Drupang Reserve Forest is declared a notified Reserved Forest in 1978 by a Gazette Notification No. FOR.233/78 issued on dated 16.08.1978 and despite being fully aware that area in question is a Reserve Forest which accords the highest level of protection, massive illegal construction of road, earth cutting and other massive encroachments is being carried out without obtaining any prior approval/clearances of the Central Government and hence is in blatant violation of Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980;
- B. Because the Respondent No. 6, Public Works Department (PWD), Naharlagun Division, is constructing an unauthorized double lane road to provide airport connectivity between Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar and Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Durpang without obtaining any prior approval/clearances of the Central Government in violation of the Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980;
- C. Because a total 28.28 ha of forest land is proposed to be diverted from the Drupang Reserve Forest for the construction of double lane road by the the Respondent No. 6, Public Works Department (PWD), Naharlagun Division, without obtaining any prior approval/clearances of the Central Government;

- D. Because the RTI Response dated 20.03.2025 received from the Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Itanagar clearly states that as on present date, no clearance has been granted to the PWD Naharlagun Division, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar for the construction of double lane road within the Drupang Reserve Forest;
- E. Because the RTI Response dated 23.06.2025 from the Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD, Naharlagun Division, indicates that the process for obtaining Forest Clearance for the construction of road is still "Under Process" which shows that the road is constructed without obtaining the forest clearance ;
- F. Because the RTI Response dated 23.07.2025 from the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Banderdewa Forest Division provided a list of ongoing construction of roads and existing roads within Drupang Reserve Forest namely, construction of the double lane road to provide airport connectivity between Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar and Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Durpang as well as the other three roads namely, (a) New road from Kukurjan (Hollongi) to Magoni area, (b) Existing road from NH-415 to Magoriang (Magoning), (c) Construction of link road Tarajuli to Drupang are illegally constructed within the Drupang Reserve Forest as the same has been undertaken without obtaining any prior Forest Clearance as mandated;
- G. Because by using geographical coordinates, remote sensing, GIS techniques, and Google Earth time-series satellite data, the Applicants conducted a comparative analysis of imagery from 2021 and 2024, which revealed unauthorized road construction within the Drupang Reserve Forest, once a lush green area, near the National Highway to Holongi, thereby severely impacting its ecological integrity;

- H. Because the illegal earth cutting activities and other forms of encroachment is taking place within the Drupang Reserved Forest which is evident from the Google Earth Imageries available on present date;
- I. Because despite repeated Representations to the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, to Secretary of the MoEF&CC, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Department of Environment and Forests, Chief Secretary of Arunachal Pradesh no necessary action has been taken by any of the concerned authorities to address the issue, as a result, the illegal encroachment continues persistently, without any statutory approval, in blatant violation of Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- J. Because the National Forest Policy mandates that forest land should not be treated merely as a resource readily available to be utilised for various schemes and programmes, but as a national asset which requires to be properly safeguarded for providing sustain benefits to the entire community as stated in Para No. 4.4.1 of the policy;
- K. Because the Forest department despite being fully aware have committed a patent breach of public trust as held in **M.C. Mehta vs. Kamal Nath (1997) 1 SCC 388** whereby the Apex Court has held that that Public Trust Doctrine is part of the law of country and that the state is custodian of the natural resources:
- "The State is the trustee of all natural resources which are by nature meant for public use and enjoyment. Public at large is the beneficiary of the sea- shore, running waters, airs, forests and ecologically fragile lands. The State as a trustee is under a legal duty to protect the natural resources. These resources meant for public use cannot be converted into private ownership."*
- L. Because the deliberate nonchalant attitude of the concerned respondents shows alarming state of affairs and rampant

violation of Rule of Law which have remained unchecked till date which is very unfortunate and the statutory regulators have erroneously failed to work in the interest of Rule of Law for protection of forest and wildlife to prevent rampant violations of such nature even without waiting for any judicial intervention;

M. Because as held by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in **Indian Council for Enviro Legal Action vs. Union of India (1996) 5 SCC 281** held that:

*"26. Enactment of a law, but tolerating its infringement, is worse than not enacting a law at all. The continued infringement of law, over a period of time, is made possible by adoption of such means which are best known to the violators of law. Continued tolerance of such violations of law not only renders legal provisions nugatory but such tolerance by the enforcement authorities encourages lawlessness and adoption of means which cannot, or ought not to, be tolerated in any civilized society. Law should not only be meant for the law-abiding but is meant to be obeyed by all for whom it has been enacted. A law is usually enacted because the legislature feels that it is necessary. It is with a view to protect and preserve the environment and save it for the future generations and to ensure good quality of life that Parliament enacted the anti-pollution laws, namely, the Water Act, Air Act and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. These Acts and Rules framed and notification issued thereunder contain provisions which prohibit and/or regulate certain activities with a view to protect and preserve the environment. When a law is enacted containing some provisions which prohibit certain types of activities, then, it is of utmost importance that such legal provisions are effectively enforced. If a law is enacted but is not being voluntarily obeyed, then, it has to be enforced. Otherwise, infringement of law, which is actively or passively condoned for personal gain, will be encouraged which will in turn lead to a lawless society. Violation of anti-pollution laws not only*

*adversely affects the existing quality of life but the non-enforcement of the legal provisions often results in ecological imbalance and degradation of environment, the adverse effect of which will have to be borne by the future generations.”*

- N. Because it is the duty of every citizen under Article 51-A(g) of the Constitution of India to protect and improve the natural environment including plants, species, forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife, and to have compassion for living creatures. Therefore, the Applicants owing the duty to protect forest, wildlife and environment has filed the present Application before this Hon'ble Tribunal;
- O. Because the State is bound under the doctrine of Public Trust to protect and preserve natural resources and take effective remedial action by way of imposition and recovery of penalty and environmental compensation from the defaulters and prosecution and blacklisting of the defaulters/ persons indulging in such illegal and unauthorised encroachment of forest land within a Reserve Forest without any prior approval from the Government;
- P. Because Article 48-A of the Constitution of India mandates that the State is under a Constitutional obligation to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forest and wild life in the country and despite such mandate the statutory regulators have miserably failed in their duties.

#### **LIMITATION**

The Applicant is filing the present Application under Sections 14, 15 and 20 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 concerning the unauthorized and illegal construction of road by encroaching upon forest land within the Drupang Reserve Forest Papumpare District, Arunachal Pradesh. That the Drupang Reserve Forest is a notified Reserved Forest since 1978 (Notification No. FOR.233/78 dated 16.08.1978). The said

encroachment is being carried out by the Public Works Department (PWD), Naharlagun Division, without obtaining any prior approval, and hence is in blatant violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. It is submitted that every day the statutory norms and Orders of the Hon'ble Tribunal are not complied with, a fresh cause of action is created in light of the Order of this Hon'ble Tribunal dated 7.05.2015 in O.A. 222 of 2014 *Forward Foundation and Ors. v State of Karnataka and Ors.* and the same constitutes a continuing cause of action. Thus, the present Application is being filed within the period of limitation as prescribed under the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

#### **INTERIM PRAYER**

In light of the above facts and circumstances, it is most respectfully prayed by the Applicants that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to pass the following interim orders:

- I. Direct the Respondent No. 6, Public Works Department (PWD), Naharlagun Division, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar to immediately stop the unauthorized construction of double lane road between Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar and Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Durpang inside Drupang Reserve Forest;

#### **PRAYERS**

In the light of the above facts and circumstances, it is most respectfully prayed that the Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to:

- I. Direct Respondent No. 6, the Public Works Department (PWD), Naharlagun Division, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar, to immediately undertake restoration of the affected area within the Drupang Reserve Forest, at its own cost which

has been illegally encroached upon due to unauthorized road construction;

- II. Initiate strict and necessary action against the Respondent No. 6, Chief Executive Engineer, Public Works Department (PWD), Naharlagun Division, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar, for carrying out unauthorized road construction inside the Drupang Reserve Forest which is a duly Notified Reserve Forest;
- III. Impose Environmental Compensation upon Respondent No. 6, Chief Executive Engineer, Public Works Department (PWD), Naharlagun Division, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar for the illegal and unauthorized construction of road inside the Drupang Reserve Forest which is a duly Notified Reserve Forest;
- IV. Direct the Respondent No. 2, Forest Department, Arunachal Pradesh to immediately stop the three unauthorized construction of roads namely, (a) New road from Kukurjan (Hollongi) to Magoni area, (b) Existing road from NH-415 to Magoriang (Magoning), (c) Construction of link road Tarajuli to Drupang are illegally constructed inside the Drupang Reserve Forest in view of the RTI Response dated 23.07.2025 from the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Banderdewa Forest Division and take restorative measures to restore the affected area;
- V. Direct the Respondent No. 2, Forest Department, Arunachal Pradesh to immediately stop all the other unauthorized earth cutting and illegal encroachments going inside the Drupang Reserve Forest in view of the RTI Response dated 30.01.2025 from the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Banderdewa Forest Division and take restorative measures to restore the affected area;

VI. Pass any other order deemed fit by this Hon'ble Tribunal in the interest of justice, equity and good conscience.



*S.D. Lodha*

APPLICANT NO. 1

*Nabam Simon*

APPLICANT NO. 2

THROUGH

*Ritwick Dutta*

RITWICK DUTTA

*Rahul Choudhary*

RAHUL CHOUDHARY

*Kaustav Dhar*

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PLACE: KOLKATA/NEW DELHI

DATE: 29. 08.2025

**VERIFICATION**

I, S.D. Lodha, S/o Koniyang Loda, aged about 40 years, R/o E-Sector, P.O- Itanagar-791111 District - Papumpare (ICR), Arunachal Pradesh, do hereby verify that the contents of paragraphs 1 to 33 are true to the best of my knowledge and I have not suppressed any material fact.

*S.D. Lodha*

APPLICANT NO. 1

I, Nabam Simon, S/o of Late Nabam Talam aged about 40 years, R/o, C-Sector, P.O- Itanagar-791111; District - Papumpare (ICR), Arunachal Pradesh, do hereby verify that the contents of paragraphs 1 to 33 are true to the best of my knowledge and I have not suppressed any material fact.

*Tapi Omo*  
25/08/25

Adv. Tapi Omo  
Notary Public  
Regd. No. 18/2024  
Itanagar Capital Region  
Arunachal Pradesh

*Nabam Simon*

APPLICANT NO. 2

Recorded at Book No. 1  
Volume No. 27  
Date... 25/08/25  
Serial No. 293  
Expiry Date 02/09/2029



**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
EASTERN ZONE BENCH AT KOLKATA  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. \_\_\_\_ OF 2025**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

S.D. LODHA AND ANR.

... APPLICANTS

VERSUS

STATE OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH AND ORS.

... RESPONDENTS

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, S.D. Lodha, S/o Konyang Loda, aged about 40 years, R/o E-Sector, P.O- Itanagar-791111 District - Papumpare (ICR), Arunachal Pradesh, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

1. I am the Applicant No. 1 in the above titled Original Application and conversant with the facts and circumstances of the case and competent to swear this affidavit.
2. That the contents of the accompanying Application are true and correct and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

*[Signature]*  
Adv. Tapi Omo  
Notary Public  
Regd. No. 18/2024  
Itanagar Capital Region  
Arunachal Pradesh

*[Signature]*

**DEPONENT**

**VERIFICATION**

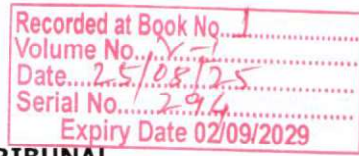
Verified on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025 that the contents of the above-mentioned Affidavit are true and correct and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

*[Signature]*  
25/08/25  
**NOTARY PUBLIC: OATH COMMISSIONER**  
Solemnly affirmed before me this day, I Certify that I read over and Explained the contents to the declarant and that the declarant seemed perfectly to understand them

*[Signature]*

**DEPONENT**

*[Signature]*  
25/08/25  
Adv. Tapi Omo  
Notary Public  
Regd. No. 18/2024  
Itanagar Capital Region  
Arunachal Pradesh



**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
EASTERN ZONE BENCH AT KOLKATA  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. \_\_\_\_ OF 2025**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

S.D. LODHA AND ANR.

... APPLICANTS

VERSUS

STATE OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH AND ORS.

... RESPONDENTS

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, Nabam Simon, S/o of Late Nabam Talam aged about 40 years, R/o, C-Sector, P.O-Itanagar-791111; District - Papumpare (ICR), Arunachal Pradesh, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

1. I am the Applicant No. 2 in the above titled Original Application and conversant with the facts and circumstances of the case and competent to swear this affidavit.
2. That the contents of the accompanying Application are true and correct and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

**DEPONENT**

**VERIFICATION**

Verified on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025 that the contents of the above-mentioned Affidavit are true and correct and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

**NOTARY PUBLIC: OATH COMMISSIONER**  
Solemnly affirmed before me this day, I  
Certify that I read over and Explained the  
contents to the declarant and that the  
declarant seemed perfectly to understand them

**Adv. Tapi Omo**  
**Notary Public**  
Regd. No. 18/2024  
Itanagar Capital Region  
Arunachal Pradesh

**DEPONENT**

The Arunachal Pradesh extraordinary gazette July 28, 1979

16<sup>th</sup> August 1978

NO. FOR.233/78. - In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 17 of The North-East Frontier Agency (Construction of references to State Government) Adaptation 1965 (No. 4 of 1965) read with Section 3 of the North East Frontier Agency (Re-organisation 1972) adaptation of Laws Order, 1972, the Lieutenant Governor of Arunachal Pradesh is hereby pleased to declare that the land described in the Schedule hereto annexed shall be Reserved Forest from the date of publication of this Notification.

**SCHEDULE**

District: Subansiri District (Arunachal Pradesh)

Name of Forest: Drupong Reserved Forest

**Area: 420.75 Sq. Km. (Approx.)**

**Boundary of Drupong Reserved Forest:**

**North-East:** - From the junction of Papum river and Poma River along the right bank of Poma River to a point where the foot path from Bolo and Bech village joins, i.e. joins at a height point of 245 (i.e. the starting point of Southern boundary of Itanagar Reserved Forest.) From this i.e the confluence of an unknown tributary along its upstream to line height point of, 613.- Thence an artificial line South-East for approx. 5 Km. till it meets the source of Chimpu nallah thence along the left bank of Chimpu Nallah till it meets the junction of Senkhi Nallah with Pachin river at a height point of 210. Thence along the left bank of Pachin nallah to its junction with dikrong river thence along the left bank of dikrong river upto a point where the inner line boundary starts. Thence

along inner line upto a point near Tarajuli Range Forest Office.

**South-West:** - Thence along the inner line towards South-West to Ramghat (Simna), where it cross Boroi river thence along the right bank of Boroi river to the starting point of North-East boundary.

**Note:** The following areas are excluded from the Reserved Forest.

- a. Jhum land required for Jotay, Tabung, Naharlagun and Lekhi village. Their entire flat land demarcated in the map appox. 78 Km.
- b. The entire flat land from Jotay will in the West upto the boundary of reserve in the East - demarcated in the map appox. 6.5 Sq.Km.
- c. Homestead and cultivation areas in the remaining villages including flat land for W.R. cultivation appox. 3.65 Sq.Km.
- d. The Naharlagun flat area - Naharlagun appox. 2 Sq. Km.
- e. Lekhi village 7 Sq. Km and Nirjuli Livestock from 1.5 Sq. Km. and fodder of Karsingsa appox. 75 Sq.Km.
- f. 5/1 Central Public Work Division, Civil Division Headquarter of Divisional Forest Officer, Headquarter of Conservator of Forest, Western Circle Police Training Centre Banderdewa, and Industrial area appox. 25 hect.
- g. Sonajuli agriculture farm 2.75 Sq. Km.
- h. The Chakma settlement area which starts from Changmara to Majoni river i.e. flat land between Inner Line and foothills excluding existing plantation area demarcated appox. 14 Sq.Km.
- i. Baliyan village, Baliyan Circle Headquarters appox. 1.5 Sq.Km.
- j. Tabung village 9.2 Sq. Km, Lenka village 45 Sq. Km (demarcated).

**[Next page]**

The Indigenous inhabitants of the aforementioned villages will have the follow-ing rights: -

**1. Rights:**

- a. To use roads and path for men or cattle existing or that may be made within the said Reserved Forest.
- b. To use water of water sources.
- c. To graze their cattle, except in forest regeneration and plantation area.

d. To cut or use timber and other forest produces for their domestic use, only on valid authority.

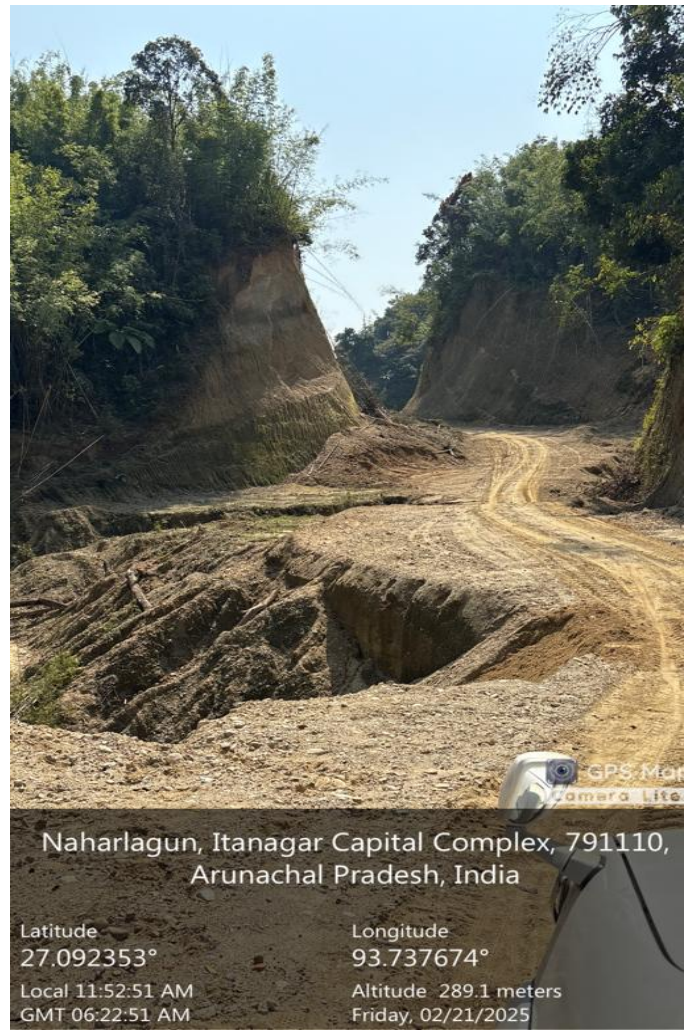
**2. Privilege:**

3. (i) To hunt wild animals and birds within the limits of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

E.S. Thangam  
Secretary (Forest)  
Government of Arunachal Pradesh,  
Itanagar

**ANNEXURE A/2.**

**COPY OF THE IMAGES TAKEN BY THE APPLICANTS SHOWING ILLEGAL AND UNAUTHORIZED CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS WITHIN THE DRUPANG RESERVE FOREST:**



**ANNEXURE A/3**

**COPY OF THE GOOGLE EARTH IMAGES OF 2021 AND 2024 TAKEN BY THE APPLICANT OF THE DRUPANG RESERVE FOREST SHOWING ILLEGAL CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS:**



APPLICATION FOR SEEKING INFORMATION  
(SEC Rule 3)

I.D. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
(for official use)

To,

The Public Information Officer,  
Office of Director of Agriculture,  
Naharlagun, D-Sector, Itanagar, Government of Arunachal Pradesh.

1. Name of the Applicant : S.D. Loda, Advocate  
2. Address : Gauhati High Court, Itanagar permanent Bench,  
3. Particulars of Information : C/o Road from Doni Polo Airport to Railway Station,  
Naharlagun within Drupong Reserve Forest being executed by PWD, Naharlagun Division.  
4. Concerned Department : PCCF office.

5. Particulars of Information required:

- a. please provide the copy of the forest clearance approval letter  
c. please provide copy of Date of approval  
d. please provide copy of File number of the approval  
e. please provide copy of Conditions stipulated in the approval.  
f. please provide copy of the trees cutting permission granted by Forest Department.

(i)

15. Period for: as applicable.

16. A fee of Rs 10/- (Rupees ten only) has been deposited in the office of the public information Officer vide receipt No \_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_

Place: 19.03.25

Dated \_\_\_\_\_



Signature of Applicant


E-mail address, if any; \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel. No. (office) \_\_\_\_\_

Note :- (i) Reasonable assistance can be provided by the Public Information officer in filling up the Form 1



CHALLAN  
TR Form -5(a)



GRN AR005299021202425P		BARCODE 		Date 19/03/2025 12:06:02	Form ID
Department Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission			Payer Details		
Type of Payment 0070 - Other Administrative Services			Tax ID (If any)		
			PAN No.(If Applicable)		
Office Name Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission, Itanagar		Full Name		SD LODA	
Location Itanagar					
Year 2024-2025 One Time		Flat/Block No./Premises/Building			
Account Head Details					
0070-60-118-00-00 Fees for RTI Application U/S 6(1), RTI Act, 2005		10		Road/StreetArea/Locality	
				Town/City/District	
				PIN	
		Remarks (If Any)			
Total		10.00		Amount in Words Ten Rupees Only	
Payment Details SBI epay			FOR USE IN RECEIVING BANK		
Cheque-DD Details			Bank CIN	Ref. No	10015092025031900790 1244118463456
Cheque/DD No.		Bank Date	RBI Date	19/03/2025 12:06:22	Not Verified with RBI
Name of Bank		Bank-Branch		SBI epay	
Name of Branch		Scroll No. , Date		Not Verified with Scroll	

**GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE  
ITANAGAR**

No.FOR.46/Cons/2021/RTI/913

Dated: 20<sup>th</sup> Mar' 2025

To,

✓ Adv. S.D Loda  
Gauhati High court, Itanagar permanent Bench: Yupia-791110  
Mobile No. 7085972500

**Sub:- RTI application for seeking information by Adv. S.D Loda.**

**Ref:- Your RTI application No. Nil dated 19.03.2025.**

Sir,

Please refer to your RTI application dated 19.03.2025. Information pertaining to the C/o Road from Doni Polo Airport to Railway Station Naharlagun with drupong Reserve Forest being executed by PWD, Naharlagun Division. The details of information sought are as under:

Sl. No.	Information	Reply
a.	Please provide the copy of the forest clearance approval letter.	As on forenoon of 19.03.2025, In-Principle approval has not been granted. The same can also be seen on Parivesh 2.0 Portal.
b	Please provide copy of date of approval.	Does not arise in the view of Sl. No. a
c	Please provide copy of File number of the approval.	Does not arise in the view of Sl. No. a
d	Please provide copy of conditions stipulated in the approval.	Does not arise in the view of Sl. No. a
e	Please provide copy of the trees cutting permission granted by Forest Department.	Does not arise in the view of Sl. No. a

Yours faithfully



Deputy Conservator of Forests (Cons)  
Public Information Officer (Cons)

To

The Public Information Officer  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
PWD, Naharlagun Division  
Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh  
Pin: 791110

Sub: Application under Right to Information Act, 2005 regarding Railway Station to Donyi Polo  
Airport Via Sonajuli

Dear Sir,

Kindly Provide the following information

**1. Please provide complete details of the road project including:**

- a) Official name and project identification number.
- b) Details of sanctioning authority.
- c) Administrative approval and expenditure sanction order (copy of order)
- d) Technical sanction details.
- e) Total sanctioned cost and current expenditure status.
- f) Scheduled date of commencement and completion.
- g) Current physical and financial progress status.

**2. Please provide copies of all statutory clearances obtained for this project, specifically:**

- a) Forest clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
- b) Environmental clearance (if applicable)
- c) Wildlife clearance (if applicable)
- d) Any other permissions from regulatory authorities

**3. If forest clearance has been obtained, please provide:**

- a) Application date for forest clearance
- b) Date of receipt of in-principle (Stage-I) approval
- c) Date of receipt of final (Stage-II) approval
- d) Copy of both approval letters with conditions
- e) Details of compliance with conditions stipulated in the approvals

**4. Please provide information regarding Compensatory Afforestation and Net Present Value:**

- a. Total forest area diverted for the project
- b. Amount of Net Present Value (NPV) assessed
- c. Amount of Compensatory Afforestation (CA) funds assessed
- d. Proof of payment of NPV and CA funds

Office of the Executive Engineer  
Naharlagun Division PWD, A.P.  
Naharlagun, Pin- 791 110

Diary No. ....  
Date .....

Received  
Tyamis  
27/2/05

- e. Details of land identified for Compensatory Afforestation
- 5. Please provide copies of:**
- Detailed Project Report (DPR)
  - Survey reports and alignment maps showing forest areas
  - Tree enumeration report indicating number and species of trees to be felled
  - Muck disposal plan and forest land restoration plan.
- 6. Please provide details of any correspondence between your department and:**
- State Forest Department
  - Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
  - Any other regulatory authority regarding forest/environmental aspects of this project
- 7. Please provide names and designations of officers responsible for:**
- Project planning and approval
  - Implementation and supervision
  - Ensuring compliance with statutory requirements
  - Monitoring Environmental Safeguards
- 8. If the project commenced without forest clearance, please provide:**
- Justification for commencing work without mandatory clearances.
  - Details of any emergency provisions invoked.
  - Any directions from higher authorities to proceed without clearance

I am enclosing application fees of Rs. 10 in form IPO No Vide .....  
dated..... and prepare to pay the necessary fee and charges for receiving this  
information as prescribed under the RTI Act.

Thank you,

Yours faithfully,

  
Shri S.D. Loda,


E-Sector, Itanagar

7085972500/ email [sdlonda@gmail.com](mailto:sdlonda@gmail.com)



CHALLAN  
TR Form -5(a)



GRN AR005971401202526P		BARCODE 		Date 07/04/2025 22:18:46	Form ID
<b>Department</b> Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission			<b>Payer Details</b>		
<b>Type of Payment</b> 0070 - Other Administrative Services			<b>Tax ID (If any)</b>		
			<b>PAN No.(If Applicable)</b>		
<b>Office Name</b> Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission, Itanagar			<b>Full Name</b>		S. D Loda
<b>Location</b> Itanagar			<b>Flat/Block No./Premises/Building</b>		
<b>Year</b> 2025-2026 One Time			<b>Remarks (If Any)</b>		
<b>Account Head Details</b>		<b>Amount In Rs.</b>			
0070-60-118-00-01 Fees for First Appeal U/S 19(1), RTI Act, 2005		50		<b>Road/StreetArea/Locality</b>	
				<b>Town/City/District</b>	
				<b>PIN</b>	
				<b>Amount in Words</b>	
				Fifty Rupees Only	
<b>Total</b>		50.00			
<b>Payment Details</b> SBI epay			<b>FOR USE IN RECEIVING BANK</b>		
<b>Cheque-DD Details</b>			<b>Bank CIN</b>	<b>Ref. No</b>	10015092025040702128 6705269958639
<b>Cheque/DD No.</b>			<b>Bank Date</b>	<b>RBI Date</b>	07/04/2025 22:19:31 Not Verified with RBI
<b>Name of Bank</b>			<b>Bank-Branch</b>		SBI epay
<b>Name of Branch</b>			<b>Scroll No. , Date</b>		Not Verified with Scroll

**FIRST APPEAL****UNDER SECTION 19(1) OF THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT, 2005.**

To

ID. No. \_\_\_\_\_ (for official use)

The SE.PWD (Central Zone) cum First Appellate Authority  
Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh

1. **Name of the Applicant:** Shri S. D Loda
2. **Address of the Applicant:** E-Sector, Itanagar; PO-Itanagar-79111
3. **Particulars of the State Public Information Officer:**
  - a. Name : Er. Chuku Tacho. E.E, PWD, Naharlagun Division
  - b. Address : PWD, Naharlagun Division, PO-Naharlagun-791110
4. Date of submission of application for seeking information: **27<sup>th</sup> February, 2025**
5. Date on which 30/35/40 days from submission of application are over: **27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025**
6. **Reasons for appeal (Please indicate separately for each question):**
  - (a) No response received within the specified period: **No response received within the specified period.**
  - (b) Aggrieved by the response received within the specified period
  - (c) Grounds for appeal: **Non-Furnishing of information sought**
7. Last date for filing the appeal: **27<sup>th</sup> April, 2025**
8. Particulars of Information: **Regarding Road from Donyi Polo, Holongi to Railway Station, Naharlagun**
  - (a) Information requested: **Form-A Enclosed**
  - (b) Subject: **as above**
  - (c) Period: **As applicable**
9. A fee of Rs 50/- (Rs Fifty Rupees Only) for appeal has been deposited in treasury via e-grass Arunachal vide Receipt No. as enclosed Dated 07.04.25 (only if applicable)

Place

Date

08.04.25  
Itanagar

  
**Shri S.D Loda,**  
Appellant

E-mail -sdlonda@gmail.com  
Mob. No. 7085972500

52  
GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**  
NAHARLAGUN DIVISION :: PWD : AP  
**NAHARLAGUN-791 110**

Gram : NIRMANPALDO

Ph : 0360-2244379

No: ND/RTI-382/SDL/2025-26/184

Dtd: 23/06/2025

To,

**Shri S.D Loda,**  
E-sector Itanagar  
E-mail:sdlonda@gmail.com  
**Contact No. 7085972500**

**Sub: - Furnishing of reply to RTI.**

With reference to the judgement order No. SECC/E-VIII/48/2025-26/400 dtd. 10/06/2025 of FAA cum Superintending Engineer, PWD Capital Circle, Itanagar, the requisite additional details as sought are furnished for your kind information please.

- 1. C/o Double lane to provide Airport Connecting from Donyi Polo Airport Itanagar via Sonajuli&Dorpang.**

Encl:- As stated above.

**Executive Engineer**  
Naharlagun Division  
PWD, AP, Naharlagun

No: ND/RTI-382/SDL/2025-26/

Dtd: /2025

Copy to:-

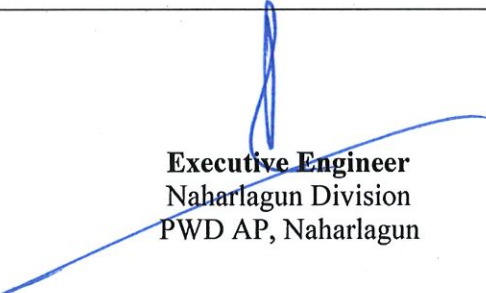
1. The Superintending Engineer, Capital Circle, PWD, Itanagar.
2. The Assistant Engineer, NSD-I, PWD AP, Naharlagun.

**Executive Engineer**  
Naharlagun Division  
PWD, AP, Naharlagun

**53**  
RTI INFORMATION

Name of Work: -C/o Double Lane Road to provide Airport connectivity from Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar to Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Durpang

Sl.N o.	Details of Information required	Information furnished
1.	With regard to his RTI Query Sl. No. 1(g), the current physical and financial progress status of the work to be furnished separately for both physical progress.	<b>A. PHYSICAL PROGRESS:</b> 1) Site clearance/ Jungle clearance-35.485km 2) Formation Cutting/ Filling/ Widening- 35km 3) Retaining Wall-80m <b>B. FINANCIAL PROGRESS:</b> Rs. 25.00 Cr
2.	With regard to his RTI Query Sl. No. 8(C), clear and specific information/document to be provided regarding the directions from higher authorities to proceed without clearance.	The work was started after observing all codal formalities. This office had issued an explicit direction to the contractor to start the execution on encumbrance free stretch of alignment.


  
**Executive Engineer**  
Naharlagun Division  
PWD AP, Naharlagun

RTI INFORMATION

Name of Work: - C/o Double Lane Road to provide Airport connectivity from Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar to Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Durpang

Sl. No.	Details of Information required	Information furnished
1	<b>Please provide complete details of the road project including:</b>	
a.	Official name and project identification number.	C/o Double Lane Road to provide Airport connectivity from Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar to Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Durpang Sanction order No. PWD-12011(11)/288/2023-Work-PWD/1063 Dtd. 14/03/2023
b.	Details of sanctioning authority.	Under Secretary (PWD) Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar
c.	Administrative approval and expenditure sanction order (copy of order)	Copy Attached as Annexure-I
d.	Technical sanction details.	No. PWD-12011(11)/288/2023-Work- PWD/1063 Dtd. 14/03/2023
e.	Total sanctioned cost and current expenditure status.	Rs.32315.00 Lakh
f.	Scheduled date of commencement and completion.	Date of Start: 06.02.2024 Date of Completion: 05.08.2026
g.	Current physical and financial progress status.	35%
2.	<b>Please provide copies of all statutory clearances obtained for this project, specifically:</b>	
a.	Forest clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980	Under Process
b.	Environmental clearance (if applicable)	NA
c.	Wildlife clearance (if applicable)	NA
d.	Any other permissions from regulatory authorities	NA
3.	<b>If forest clearance has been obtained, please provide:</b>	
a.	Application date for forest clearance	Application Submitted
b.	Date of receipt of in-principle (Stage-I) approval	Under Process
c.	Date of receipt of final (Stage-II) approval	Under Process
d.	Copy of both approval letters with conditions	Under Process
e.	Details of compliance with conditions stipulated in the approvals	Under Process
4.	<b>Please provide information regarding Compensatory Afforestation and Net Present Value:</b>	

a.	Total forest area diverted for the project	28.28 ha
b.	Amount of Net Present Value (NPV) assessed	1116900 Lakh/ Ha
c.	Amount of Compensatory Afforestation (CA) funds assessed	89.93 Lakh
d.	Proof of payment of NPV and CA funds	NA
e.	Details of land identified for Compensatory Afforestation	Submitted
<b>5.</b>	<b>Please provide copies of:</b>	
a.	Detailed Project Report (DPR)	Copy Attached as Annexure-II
b.	Survey reports and alignment maps showing forest areas	Attached as Annexure-II
c.	Tree enumeration report indicating number and species of trees to be felled	Submitted
d.	Muck disposal plan and forest land restoration plan.	Submitted
<b>6.</b>	<b>Please provide details of any correspondence between your department and:</b>	
a.	State Forest Department	NA
b.	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	NA
c.	Any other regulatory authority regarding forest/environmental aspects of this project	NA
<b>7.</b>	<b>Please provide names and designations of officers responsible for:</b>	
a.	Project planning and approval	Govt of AP
b.	Implementation and supervision	CE(WZ), PWD
c.	Ensuring compliance with statutory requirements	Yes
d.	Monitoring Environmental Safeguards	Yes
<b>8.</b>	<b>If the project commenced without forest clearance, please provide:</b>	
a.	Justification for commencing work without mandatory clearances.	Speedy implementation of the project as per the Contract Agreement.
b.	Details of any emergency provisions invoked.	Prestigious work
c.	Any directions from higher authorities to proceed without clearance	Fund released by the Govt.

  
 Executive Engineer  
 Naharlagun Division  
 PWD AP, Naharlagun

18029/2023

F-7/1

27/c



GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
SECRETARIAT PWD (WORKS) BRANCH  
ITANAGAR

ORDER

Dated Itanagar the 14<sup>th</sup> March'2023

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh is pleased to accord Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction not exceeding to Rs. 32315.00 lakhs (Rupees Three Hundred Twenty Three Crore Fifteen Lakh) only being estimated cost with expenditure restricted to Rs. 5000.00 lakh [Rupees Fifty Crore] only for "C/o Double lane road to provide air connectivity between Donyi-Polo Airport Itanagar and Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Durgang" with an advisory that the charges ( 3% consultancy for Rs. 9,23,95,654.00 and 1% quality control for Rs. 2,84,99,670.00) shown in the abstract will be restricted as per Govt. Guidelines on the matter, as per fund provision under SASC1-2022-23, as proposed through EE, PWD Naharlagun Div., subject to the restriction of fund as per availability during CFY-2022-23 with the following stipulated conditions:-

1. The Expenditure during CFY-2022-23 is restricted to Rs. 5000.00 lakh [Rupees Fifty Crore] only under the concerned Head of Account.
2. The fund under Centrally Sponsored Scheme [CSS/NEC/NLCPR/BADAP and State Share related to CSS] shall be placed / transferred through PFMS Plat form mode only
3. Department shall ensure the availability of land and in case any dispute/litigation of land, responsibility shall be held on officer who signed the LAC.
4. The Contingency Charge shall be restricted to 1.5% for the cost up to Rs. 3.00 Cr. and 1% for the cost above Rs. 3.00 Cr., and Scheduled of Rate shall be APSR 2018 as per Govt. order No. Govt. order No. Fin[D]-04/2018 Dated 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and No. Fin [D]-6/2003 Dated 27<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2018.
5. The DDO of the Department should ensure to obtain the copy of GST return 3 B filed for the previous tax period from the Supplier / Contractor before releasing any payment as per Govt. order No. GST/27/2017 Pt. Dated 30<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2018
6. The Project should be completed as per original scope and specifications and no revision of the estimate shall be entertained. There should be no time and cost over-run
7. The fund should be utilized within specified time and strictly for the purpose for which it is sanctioned. No diversion of fund is allowed.
8. The concurrence is subject to non-duplication with any other scheme. For any deviation, responsibilities shall be fixed on the concerned officer of the Department.
9. The GST/Royalty/ Labour Cess wherever applicable as per prevailing rates which shall be deducted and deposit into Government account properly.
10. All the codal formalities, the provisions and conditions prescribed in the GFR, DFPR, CPWD Manual etc. All the financial rules and regulations, the guidelines and directives issued by the Govt. of India, Ministry of Finance, GoI, Administrative Ministry of GoI, CVC and Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh in this regard from time to time should be followed in the letter and spirit without fail and any lapse in this regard shall squarely be responsibility of the Department.
11. The concurrence is also subject to the following of codal formalities and ensuring guidelines of State Government/Govt. of India which shall squarely be responsibility of the Department.
12. The execution of works/schemes/projects and procurement of items/materials, furniture etc, should be done strictly as per the provisions of GFR, DFPR, CPWD Manual etc. All the financial Rules and Regulations, the guidelines and directives issued by Govt. of India, Ministry of Finance, GoI/ Administrative Ministry of GoI, CVC and Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh in this regard from time to time should be followed in letter and spirit without fail. The process of tendering and competitive bidding should mandatorily be followed and complied with as envisaged in the GFR, DFPR, Financial Rules and Regulations and the conditions, guidelines, Circulars and directives issued/prescribed by Govt. of India, CVC and Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh in this regard.
13. All the conditions and Guidelines prescribed and specified by the Ministry of DONER/NEC/Name of Administrative Ministry, Govt of India / State Planning Department [ as the case may be ] shall be followed in letter and spirit without fail.
14. Department shall ensure to Geo Tag for the work and enter in MIS once the asset is created and forward a copy of the same to FD and Planning in case of Beneficiary oriented Schemes / Projects ( wherever applicable )

P.I.O

Naharlagun Division-PWD, A.P.

/11809/2023



15. Department shall ensure to provide priority to procure/ purchase the Goods and Services locally through tender to encourage local entrepreneurs in view of Vocal and Local and Atma Nirbhar Bharat vide Notification No. Fin/E/11/30/2017 Dated 19<sup>th</sup> Aug'2020 and procurement shall be done through e-Market (Gem), If the items are not available locally.
16. Department shall ensure to purchase/procure the Items(s) related to Curtain Cloth, Bed Sheet, Pillow Cover, School Uniforms, Sweaters and Handicrafts products like Wooden, Cane and Bamboo etc against Govt. Offices, Hospitals, Hostels, Govt. Aided Boarding Institutions, Police Personnel and MTS etc. from Department of Textiles and Handicrafts as per OM No. PD(SPD)-17/2014-15 Dated 09/06/2020 (wherever applicable).
17. The Expenditure is dubtable under Head of Accounts:-5064-04-337-07-00-53 D/No. 31
18. The Department shall ensure submission of authenticated fund allocation copy [with detailed break-up under the given Budget provision of Current Financial Year (CFY), if any] to Treasuries concerned while submitting Bills.
- This issues with the concurrence of Finance Deptt. vide File No. FIN-D-11062/765/2023, E-112963/111802.

Sd/-

(K. Tayeng)

Principal Secretary(PWD)  
Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh  
Itanagar.

Dated Itanagar the 15/03/2023

Copy to :-

1. The Accountant General(Audit), Govt. of AP, Itanagar.
2. The PPS to HCM(PWD), Govt. of AP, Itanagar
3. The Principal Secretary(Fin), Govt. of AP, Itanagar.
4. The Commissioner(Labour & Employment), Govt. of AP, Itanagar.
5. The Secretary(Planning), Govt. of AP, Itanagar.
6. The Chief Engineer(PWD), WZ, AP, Itanagar.
7. The Chief Engineer(SID&P), PWD, AP, Itanagar.
8. The Supdt. Engineer(PWD) Capital Circle, AP.
9. The EE PWD, Naharlagun Division, PWD, AP.
10. Office copy.

Signed by Tayi Kena

Date: 15-03-2023 17:46:17  
Under Secretary(PWD)  
Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh  
Itanagar.

P.O

Naharlagun Division-PWD, A.P.

GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

E-Mail : ceapwz@gmail.com  
FAX : 0360-2212277  
PHONE : 0360-2212536 (O)

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER  
WESTERN ZONE: PWD: AP  
ITANAGAR

No. CEAP[WZ]/CSS/2022-23/

Dated Itanagar 05/12/2022

To

✓ The Secretary (Planning & Investment)  
Government of Arunachal Pradesh  
Itanagar.

Sub:- Submission of Concept Paper.

Sir,

Please find enclosed herewith the Concept Paper for the work "C/o Double Lane road to provide air connectivity between Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar and Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Durpang in Assam" an amounting of Rs. 323.15 Crore for obtaining of approval from the competent authority.

Enclo:- As stated above.

Yours faithfully

Suptdg. Surveyor of Works  
for Chief Engineer (WZ)  
PWD:: AP:: Itanagar

Dated Itanagar ...../12/2022

No. CEAP[WZ]/CSS/2022-23/

Copy to:-

1. The Superintending Engineer, Capital Circle, PWD, AP, Itanagar for information w.r.t his letter No. SECC/Concept Paper(Nlg)/2022-23/1135 dated 05/12/2022.
2. The Executive Engineer, Naharlagun Division, PWD, AP, Naharlagun for information.
3. Office copy.

Suptdg. Surveyor of Works  
for Chief Engineer (WZ)  
PWD:: AP:: Itanagar

P.I.O  
Naharlagun Division-PWD, A.P.

GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT



CONCEPT PAPER

- Name of work : Construction of Double lane road to provide air connectivity between Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar and Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Durpang in Assam.
- Head of Account : CSS schemes (PM Gati Sakti Yojna)
- Estimated Cost : Rs. 323.15 Crore

  
P.I.O  
Naharlagun Division-PWD, A.P.



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,  
ARUNACHAL PRADESH,

GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

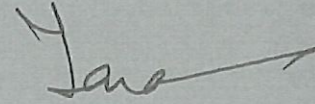
Ph : 0360-2244 379  
Fax No.0360-2248344  
E-mail- eenlg@ yahoo .co.in

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
NAHARLAGUN DIVISION  
PWD : AP : NAHARLAGUN-791 110.

NON DUPLICITY CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the Project "Construction of Double lane road to provide air connectivity between Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar and Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Durpang in Assam" under the scheme not sanction/ taken-up/ proposed for taken up for funding under any other source of the Central or State Government or NEC or under any other programmes and plans.

Division:-Naharlagun  
Dated :- 05/12/2022



Executive Engineer  
Naharlagun Division  
PWD,AP,Naharlagun



Superintending Engineer  
Capital Circle, PWD AP  
Itanagar



P.I.O

Naharlagun Division-PWD, A.P.

CONCEPT PAPER

**Name of the Project:-** Construction of Double lane road to provide air connectivity between Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar and Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Dulpang in Assam.

1.	Context/Back Ground	<p>Arunachal Pradesh, often called the land of dawn lit mountains, is situated in the northern-eastern tip of the country. This state has great strategic importance for the country as it shares an international boundary of 1628 Km with China in the north, Bhutan in the west and Myanmar in the east. With an area of 83, 743 Sq.Km, Arunachal Pradesh is the largest geographical entity in the northern eastern part of India.</p> <p>The topographical terrain of the state is mostly hilly with 51% of the state total geographical area having an attitude of more than 2000 m where road construction is very tedious. The road density if the state is just 17.18 Km per 100 Sq.Km. which compares very poorly with the national average of 73.00 Km per 100 Sq. Km and the north east average of 52.10 Km per 100 Sq. Km. the absence of proper and reasonable road network impedes the development activity in the state.</p> <p>The state has immense potential for hydropower generation, tourism, horticulture, forestry and agro-based industries. Development of road network only can provide the necessary impetus for exploiting the potential for development in the state. Many of the large tributaries of the river Brahmaputra flow through the state which requires construction of bridges in a large scale for developing the road network required for development of the state.</p> <p>The proposal for construction of road from NH-415 near Kankar Nallah bridge point, Naharlagun to Donyi-Polo Airport via Dulpung, Sonajuli is aimed to create a by pass road from Naharlagun Railway Station to Donyi-Polo Airport. The detailed survey and investigation has revealed a road length of 38km most economical and feasible road alignment. On its completion, the road it will open new location on its alignment for rehabilitation and settlement of the villagers as well as expansion of the fastest growing state capital as well as by pass road to Donyi-Polo Airport from Naharlagun, Nirjuli, Doimukh, Yupia and other adjoining areas.</p>
2.	Problem to be Adressed	<p>The road alignment is passing through the geographical isolation area of Papumpare district is the primary problem that will be addressed by construction of this road. Itanagar/ Naharlagun being the twin capital city of Arunachal Pradesh. People from the district have to come to Capital for official works. They have to keep in touch with the state capital for programme implementation of government schemes. Officers and Officials serving in the various part of the state have also to keep in touch with the state capital. One can very well imagine the hindrance the absence of a by pass road in case the NH-415 is blocked by landslide. The problem is acutely felt during important event like conduct of election.</p>


P.I.O


Naharlagun Division-PWD, A.P.


3.	Project Objective	The primary objective of the scheme is to provide the crucial link between all other districts as well as the neighbouring state, Assam. It will facilitate road connectivity for the local population residing in the road alignment. Many aspects of decent civic like power supply, water supply, schools, medical centre and other essential amenities of life are not being availed by the local peoples on account of absence of proper road communication network. This road will provide the launching pad for catering to provision of these amenities to the local population. On construction of this road, local agricultural, Horticultural and forest product could be easily marketed in the towns thereby contributing greatly to the socio-economic upliftment of the people. Another objective of this project is to facilitate hydropower generation by national agencies like NHPC, who is already under taking schemes for hydropower investigation in the region.
4.	Target Beneficiaries	The Urban and Rural people of numbering 277000 Nos residing in Itanagar/ Naharlagun, Durpang, Sonajuli, Pichola, Chesha, Bodpur, Modpur, Holongi etc will be directly benefited by this road. This road will also be able to attract National and International Tourists. Hydropower investigating agencies like NHPC will also be benefited through this road.
5.	Project Strategy	The project will be implemented by the PWD Arunachal Pradesh by engaging suitable contractors through call of Tender. Mechanized method of Construction will be adopted. There will be close linkage between the funding Agency and the PWD in supervision and implementation of the project.
6.	Legal Frame Work	The project will be implemented by PWD, Arunachal Pradesh as centrally sponsored project. Relevant specification laid by the IRC and Ministry of Road Transport & Highways will be the basis for entering into agreements with contractors wherever applicable. The Standard Bidding Documents (SBD) approved by central Ministry will also form the basis for agreement. The state Govt. will provide land required for the project free of cost without encumbrances.
7.	Environmental Impact Assessment	Since the road alignment does not fall on any Reserved Forest, there will be no adverse impact on the environment.
8.	Ongoing Initiatives	The detailed survey and Investigation has been carried out and the road alignment length of 38km most economical and feasible. The detailed project report is under preparation.
9.	Technology Issues	The relevant specification and guidelines of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and IRC will be followed. The latest technology of such road construction in the country and abroad will be adopted.
10.	Management Arrangement	Shri. T.Taloh, CE(WZ), an experienced Chief Engineer from state PWD will exercise general supervision and control over project. The nodal authority will be the State Planning Department.
11.	Means of Finance and Project Budget	The project will be funded by Govt. of India

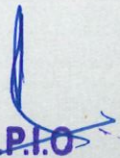
P.I.O  
Naharlagun Division-PWD, A.P.

12.	Time Frame	<p>The work will be started as soon as the project is sanctioned and funds released and expected to be completed over a period of three years. Yearwise phasing is as enunciated below:-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>Year</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>Phasing of Fund</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022-23</td> <td>Rs. 6500.00 Lakhs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023-24</td> <td>Rs. 14500.00 Lakhs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2024-25</td> <td>Rs. 11315.00 Lakhs</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PROJECT COMPLETION COST</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Financial</th> <th>Physical</th> <th>Remarks</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2022-23</td> <td>Rs. 6500.00 Lakhs</td> <td>Survey &amp; Investgation, Formation Cutting, Formation filling and Culverts</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023-24</td> <td>Rs. 14500.00 Lakhs</td> <td>Construction of Bridge-50% &amp; R/Wall.</td> <td>45%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2024-25</td> <td>Rs. 11315.00 Lakhs</td> <td>Construction of Bridge-100%, Pavement &amp; Drain.</td> <td>35%</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>Rs. 32315.00 Lakhs</b></td> <td></td> <td><b>100%</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Phasing of Fund</b>	2022-23	Rs. 6500.00 Lakhs	2023-24	Rs. 14500.00 Lakhs	2024-25	Rs. 11315.00 Lakhs	Year	Financial	Physical	Remarks	2022-23	Rs. 6500.00 Lakhs	Survey & Investgation, Formation Cutting, Formation filling and Culverts	20%	2023-24	Rs. 14500.00 Lakhs	Construction of Bridge-50% & R/Wall.	45%	2024-25	Rs. 11315.00 Lakhs	Construction of Bridge-100%, Pavement & Drain.	35%	<b>Total</b>	<b>Rs. 32315.00 Lakhs</b>		<b>100%</b>
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13	Risk Analysis	<p>No proper risk analysis could be made. However, the possible risks against project implementation could be natural calamities like earth quake, land slides etc. On the other hand , no other major risks, legal, contractual, environmental, managerial or regulatory are expected. Evaluation will be done by the Engineers of the Departmental through suitable Consultants. The state executing agency will provide all relevant data and inputs required.</p>																												
14	Success Criteria	<p>Economy in the cost, timely implementation &amp; completion and socio-economic benefit to the people of the area covered by this project may be taken as it success criteria.</p>																												
15	Financial and Economic Analysis.	<p>The Economic Internal Rate of Return ( EIRR) and Sensitivity Analysis could not be done at present in DPR. However, the maximum required Internal Rates of Return (EIRR) shall be assessed by means of growing socio-economic activities in the region.</p>																												
16	Sustainability	<p>The maintenance cost of this road after completion of the project would be borne by the State Government.</p>																												

  
**Executive Engineer**  
 Naharlagun Division  
 PWD,AP,Naharlagun

  
**Superintending Engineer**  
 Capital Circle  
 PWD,AP,Itanagar

  
**Chief Engineer**  
 Western Zone  
 PWD AP, Itanagar

  
**P.I.O.**  
 Naharlagun Division-PWD, A.P.

LINE ESTIMATE

State : AP

Branch : B&amp;R

Division: Naharlagun

Sub-Division: NSD-I

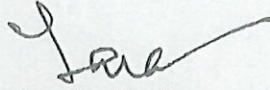
**NAME OF WORK : Construction of Double lane road to provide air connectivity between Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar and Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajull and Durpang in Assam.**

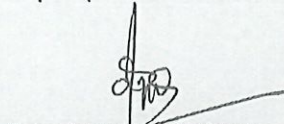
Item No.	Sub-heads and items of work	Quantity or No.	Rate	Per	Amount	Remarks
<b>1</b>	<b>FORMATION CUTTING</b>					
1.1	Jungle Clearance	17.553 Km	1 90 000.00	KM	33 35 070.00	
1.2	Formation Cutting ( Double Lane)	17.553 Km	65 00 000.00	KM	11 40 94 500.00	
1.3	Formation Filling ( Double Lane)	20.447 Km	55 00 000.00	KM	11 24 58 500.00	
<b>2</b>	<b>PAVEMENT</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>(A)</b>	<b>22 98 88 070.00</b>	
2.1	Granular Sub-Base (GSB)	38.000 Km	25 00 000.00	KM	9 50 00 000.00	
2.2	Wet Mix Macadam (WMM)	38.000 Km	30 00 000.00	KM	11 40 00 000.00	
2.3	Carpeting	38.000 Km	70 00 000.00	KM	26 60 00 000.00	
<b>3</b>	<b>PROTECTION WORK</b>					
3.1	Retaining Wall/ Breast Wall of 3.00 m Height	1500.00 Mtr	37 716.34	Mtr	5 65 74 510.00	
3.2	Retaining Wall/ Breast Wall of 4.00 m Height	1300.00 Mtr	54 040.74	Mtr	7 02 52 962.00	
3.3	Retaining Wall/ Breast Wall of 5.00 m Height	800.00 Mtr	70 366.76	Mtr	5 62 93 408.00	
3.4	Retaining Wall/ Breast Wall of 6.00 m Height	175.00 Mtr	98 867.88	Mtr	1 73 01 879.00	
<b>4</b>	<b>CROSS DRAINAGE</b>					
4.1	RCC Slab Culvert 1.50 mtr Span	65 Nos.	29 45 148.00	Each	19 14 34 620.00	
4.2	RCC Slab Culvert 2.00 mtr Span	46 Nos.	30 83 908.00	Each	14 18 59 768.00	
4.3	RCC Slab Culvert 3.00 mtr Span	37 Nos.	39 79 756.00	Each	14 72 50 972.00	
4.4	RCC Slab Culvert 6.00 mtr Span	34 Nos.	60 93 404.00	Each	20 71 75 736.00	
4.5	Side Drain	37 500.00 Mtr	6 645.61	Mtr	24 92 10 375.00	
<b>5</b>	<b>BRIDGES</b>					
5.1	RCC Bridge-10m Span	4 No.	150 00 000.00	Each	6 00 00 000.00	
5.2	RCC Bridge-15m Span	2 No.	225 00 000.00	Each	4 50 00 000.00	
5.3	RCC Bridge-20m Span	3 No.	300 00 000.00	Each	9 00 00 000.00	
5.4	RCC Bridge-30m Span	1 No.	450 00 000.00	Each	4 50 00 000.00	
5.5	RCC Bridge-45m Span	2 No.	675 00 000.00	Each	13 50 00 000.00	
5.6	RCC Bridge-100m Span	2 No.	1500 00 000.00	Each	30 00 00 000.00	
5.7	RCC Bridge-150m Span	1 No.	2250 00 000.00	Each	22 50 00 000.00	
5.8	RCC Bridge-200m Span	1 No.	3000 00 000.00	Each	30 00 00 000.00	
<b>6</b>	<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>					
6.1	Road Sign Board	1 Job	376 12 838.00	Job	3 76 12 838.00	
					<b>3 07 98 55 138.00</b>	
	Add 1 % Quality Control except (A)	1%	284 99 67 068.00		2 84 99 670.68	
	Add 3% Consultancy Charges	3%	307 98 55 138.00		9 23 95 654.14	
	Add 1 % Contingencies	1%	307 98 55 138.00		3 07 98 551.38	
					<b>3 23 15 49 014.20</b>	

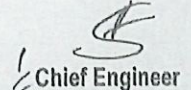
Say

323.15 Crores

Rupees(Three Hundred Twenty Three Crore and Fifteen Lakh)Only

  
Executive Engineer  
Naharlagun Division  
PWD, AP, Naharlagun.

  
Superintending Engineer  
Capital Circle  
PWD, AP, Itanagar

  
Chief Engineer  
Western Zone  
PWD, AP, Itanagar

  
P.I.O  
Naharlagun Division-PWD, A.P.





**GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER  
BANDERDEWA FOREST DIVISION::BANDERDEWA.**

No. SUB/69/2024/RTI/ 2526

Dtd. 23/7/25

To,

Shri S.D Loda  
Darang Building, Backside of Arunsubansiri Hotel,  
Po- Itanagar- 791111, Papum Pare District, Arunachal Pradesh  
Phone No: 7085972500

Sub: - **Information under RTI Act/2005.**

Ref: - No. Nil Dated 05/06/2025

With reference to your application date 05/06/2025 this is to furnish the following document as desired by you

Sl. No	Information Sought	Reply
1.	Please provide the number of <b>Encroachment Cases</b> recorded by the various Range Forest Office under notified Drupong RF with geo-coordinate details	<b>Total Nos. of Encroachment Cases as per the record available in this office is 310 &amp; geo-coordinate not available in this office</b>
2.	Please provide the name and location of roads (existing, ongoing construction or proposed under Drupong Reserve Forest duly funded by the govt. Whether Forest Clearance granted?	<b>As per the Range Officers report- 1. Double Lane road to provide Airport Connectivity from Donyi Polo Airport Hollongi to Naharlagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Drupong.</b>

  
 PIO  
 Banderdewa Forest Division  
 Banderdewa

		<p>2. <b>New road from Kukurjan (Hollongi) to Magoni area.</b></p> <p>3. <b>Existing road from NH-415 to Magoriang (Magoning)</b></p> <p>4. <b>Construction of link road Tarajuli to Drupong.</b></p> <p>No forest clearance obtained for the above projects. However, diversion proposal has already submitted against the project at Sl. No.1</p>
3.	Please provide the status of action taken report against the unauthorized road from Naharlagun Railways Station to Donyi Polo Airport via Sonajuli under Drupong Reserve Forest. Is in-principle approval against the project was approved or not?	<b>Offence Report drawn by R.O Drupong Forest Range (Copy enclosed) forest Clearance yet to be Conveyed by GOI</b>
4.	Please provide the location and geo-coordinates details of roads illegally constructed by the private individual:-	<b>Same as Sl. No. 2</b>
5.	Please provide the total area of encroachment recorded, total area of Drupong Reserve Forest land under occupation of private individual:-	<b>As per the record available in this office, total area is 448.224 ha</b>
6.	Please provide the action taken report of various unauthorized activities:-	<b>Copies of Offence Report submitted by the concern Range Officer against the illegal activities detected under Reserve Forest are sent to the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Yupia for trial, Cases are laying pending in CJM Court, Yupia</b>
	Please provide the year wise eviction report:-	<b>Data of year wise eviction</b>


  
 PIO  
 Banderdewa Forest Division  
 Banderdewa

7.		conducted by Range officer under their jurisdiction is not available in this office.
8.	Please provide the list of Range, Beat Office, Forest Check gate under Drupong Reserve Forest	As per the Range Officers report- a. Banderdewa: - 1. Beat Office – 2 Nos. 2. Forest Check Gate- 2 Nos. b. Drupong:- 1. Beat Office – 2 Nos. 2. Forest Check Gate- 1 No. c. Baliyan ;- 1. Beat Office – 3 Nos. 2. Forest Check Gate – 3 Nos. d. Kokila : - 1. Beat Office – 2 Nos. 2. Forest Check Gate. – Nil
9.	Please furnish the list of equipment available protection of Drupong Reserve Forest:-	1. Bolero Camper - 2 Nos. 2. Bolero - 3 Nos. 4. Bike – 1 Nos.
10	Please provide the copy of year wise wildlife census data under Drupong Reserve Forest	Copies of Range Officers report enclosed.
11	Please provide the list of recorded human-wildlife conflict under Drupong Reserve Forest:-	As per the Range Officers report Nil.
12	Please provide the list of species (Flora and Fauna) present under Drupong Reserve Forest and the status of such species:-	Copies enclosed
13	Please provide the total numbers of Elephant recorded under Drupong Reserve forest:-	As per serial No.10

  
 PIO  
 Banderdewa Forest Division  
 Banderdewa

14	Please provide the measures or step taken for the protection of wildlife present under Drupong Reserve:-	<b>Periodic Patrolling by the field staff and Seizer of wildlife and burning. (Copies enclosed).</b>
15	Please provide the list of identified and designated Wildlife Corridors with geo-coordinate and its status report in Tabular form:-.	<b>Khundakhawa Elephant corridor- GPS coordinate: 27 ° 7'9.80"N; 93°46'55.42E</b>
16	Please provide the numbers of camera installed under RF and details of Geo-Coordinates Location	<b>Nil.</b>


Encl: - As above.

  
**(MORI RIBA) DCF**  
**PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER**  
**BANDERDEWA FOREST DIVISION**  
**BANDERDEWA**

  
**PIO**  
**Banderdewa Forest Division**  
**Banderdewa**

**LIST OF FLORA AND FAUNA**

Sl.No	Flora	Fauna
1	Sopa	Squirrel
2	Yahu	Flying squirrel
3	Hoolok	Deer
4	Bamboo	Black bear
5	Udal	Wild fox
6	Paroli	Monkey
7	Dokio-Polo	Wild boar
8	Hati Poila	Reptiles i.e snake, Komodo, Dragon chameleon, lizard etc.
9	Wild Banana	Birds species i.e Pigeon, Wild Fowl, Bulbul, Owl, Wild Parrot Eagle etc.
10	Shrubs	Elephant
11	Climbers etc.	Micro fauna i.e Earthworm, Centipede, Ants, Termites etc.

  
 Divisional Forest Officer  
 Banderdewa Forest Division  
 Banderdewa



APPENDIX -XXIV  
(vide Para 48.1)  
Application for Issue of Process

F. D. Form No. 33

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & FOREST

ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
(APPENDIX- XI)  
APPLICATION FOR ISSUE OF PROCESS

From

THE OFFICER- IN- CHARGE,  
Drupong Forest  
.....RRANGE

To

THE CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE  
YUPLA

No. DR/02/02/251 Dtd. 28/06/2024

Sir,

Whereas the marginally noted persons have committed accompanying  
E.E. PWD, Nohmalagan Division offence report of this station, and whereas the  
A.P. constructed a road by facts can be proved by the evidence of the  
illegal Earth cutting in Drupong witnesses named therein. I have the honour to  
Reserve forest area. request, that the court will issue process  
against the accused any try the case  
under such sections of the Indian Penal Code or the Indian Forest Section  
Assam Forest Regulation  
or both, as it may deem applicable.

Yours faithfully

Range Forest Officer  
Drupong Forest Range  
.....Range

Forwarded through the Deputy ..... Conservator of Forest in  
charge. Banderdewa Division  
Forest

PIO  
Banderdewa Forest Division  
Banderdewa

Schedule L (Part-72 Form No. 32

(1)

FOREST DEPARTMENT, ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Banderdewa Forest Division.

Offence report No. DR/01 of 2024-25 dated 28/06/2024

Doupang Forest (REVENUE STATION RANGE)  
Range

Nature of the offence

Construction of Road by illegal Earth Cutting  
in Doupang Reserve Forest area.

Date and hour of detection 27/06/2024 @ 11:00 AM

Place of occurrence Doupang Reserve Forest

By whom detected Shri H. Taka, Dy. F.R and Taxajuli Range  
Staffs.

FOREST ACT

REFERENCE TO SECTION OF THE ..... AND INDIAN PENAL  
ASSAM FOREST REGULATION

CODE 25(d) of (f) 1891

Forest Conservation Act 1980  
(To be filled in by the Divisional Forest Officer)

NAME OF ACCUSED

Name	Father's Name	Place or Residence		
		Village	Thana	District
<u>E.E. PWD</u>		<u>PWD, Nahaskwa</u>		
<u>Division, Nahar</u>		<u>Division, (A.P)</u>	<u>Nahaskg-</u>	<u>Dimpur</u>
<u>lagun, (A.P)</u>			<u>un.</u>	

NAME OF WITNESS					
<u>P. K. Puyang (F.S.)</u>	}	<u>(Range Staff of Doupang Forest Range.)</u>			
<u>Nabin James</u> <u>(cont)</u>					

Chhumi  
Banderdewa Forest Division  
Banderdewa

Full report of all the facts in detail.

(To be framed not later than the day after the occurrence)

On 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 at around 11:00 AM while on patrolling duty along with the Range Staff of Drouping Forest Range, Tanajuli (A.P.), took a cognizance of situation and observed that vast stretch of forest have been cleared and illegal Earth cutting has been done for the construction of road which cause deforestation within the Reserved forest. But no person or machineries were present on site during the patrolling and it has come to our knowledge from a reliable source that the activities has been carried out by the PWD, Department under Nahaslagun Division, Assamachal Pradesh for connectivity purposes under construction of double lane road to provide airport connectivity from Donyi Polo Airport, Hollongi to Nahaslagun Railway Station via Sonajuli and Drouping. As no NOC was obtained from the Forest Department before carrying out the activity this is a clear violation of the Forest Conservation Act, 1981. Hence, an offence report has been drawn against the Executive Engineer of PWD department Nahaslagun Division, Assamachal Pradesh for the non-compliance.

Geo-Coordinates of sites are as follow -

N 27° 04' 00.2"

E 093° 49' 44.3"

N 27° 04' 03.8"

E 093° 49' 43.4"

N 27° 3' 32.90256"

E 93° 44' 55.91616"

  
PIO  
Banderdewa Forest Division  
Banderdewa

  
Range Forest Officer  
Drouping Forest Range

(3)

---

**Statement of the accused**

---

Accused not found in the spot, as such personal statement could not be obtained.

  
PIO  
Banderdewa Forest Division  
Banderdewa

FOREST DEPARTMENT, ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Banderdewa Forest Division.

OFFENCE REPORT NO. DR/01 of 2024-25

dated 28/06/2024

Drupong Forest Range (REVENUE STATION RANGE)

Memo No DR/02/02/251

Dated 28/06/2024

Forwarded to the Deputy Conservators of Forests,  
Banderdewa Forest Division, with a copy of the seizure

Report and an application for issue of process.

Deputy Range Forest Officer  
Drupong Forest Range (Revenue Station Range)

Memo No

Dated

Forwarded to the Chief Judicial Magistrate Commissioner  
of Yuria with an application for issue of process,  
and the following documents

Conservator of Forests,  
in-charge

Divisional Forest Officer  
Banderdewa Forest Division  
Banderdewa

Adhikari  
PIO  
Banderdewa Forest Division  
Banderdewa

P-44

P-18



GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
OFFICE OF THE RANGE FOREST OFFICER  
DRUPONG FOREST RANGE:::TARAJULI

No.DR/02/2016/141#

Dtd.07/10/2022

To,

The Divisional Forest Officer  
Banderdewa Forest Division  
Banderdewa.

Sub:- Status report on the Elephant Estimation and Tiger Census reg.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the status report on the Elephant and Tiger Census as per observation of our Range patrolling team, while on routine patrolling observed that there are 3 herds of elephant present in Drupong Forest Range jurisdiction as shown below:-

1	3 Adult	1 Calf	-	4 Nos
2	3 Adult	1 Calf	2 Juvenile	6 Nos
3	1 Adult	-	-	1 No
Total	7 Adult	2 Calf	2 Juvenile	11 Nos

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

*o/c*

Yours faithfully,

Range Forest Officer  
Drupong Forest Range  
Drupong Forest Range  
Tarajuli (A.P.)

PIO  
Banderdewa Forest Division  
Banderdewa

**ELEPHANT CENSUS-2015**

(RHS) (18/03/15)

Name of the Elephant Reserve : Bandarawa Forest Division Total Area : ..... Sq. Km.  
 Method Used : Spotting Scientific Institute involved : .....  
 Date of Census : 08 Feb 2015

Name of Beat	Area (sq .Km)	Adult Bulls (>240 cm)			Adult Cows >210 cm	Adult/sub-adult US				Sub-adult Bulls 151-240 cm			Sub-adult cows 151-210 cm	Juvenile 121-150 cm	Calf < 120 cm	Grand Total
		T	MK	Total		>240 cm	211-240 cm	151-210 cm	Total	T	MK	Total				
DRUPONG		-	2	2	-											2
RO RBAM-DPA			1	1												1
TARAJULA			1	1												1

*Chayman*  
 PIO  
 Bandarawa Forest Division  
 Bandarawa







Data Sheet - 3A  
Vegetation (15m radius plot)

Observer: R. Narayana, K Date: 8/4/15 Forest Division: Bandyalwa Range: Dimpang  
Plot: 'Tangyuk' ID No. of Line Transect: T/1

R-32  
A-66

Plot No.	Canopy Cover (0-1)	Tree Species * (Descending Order of Dominance)					Shrub Species/ Shrub like Tree Species * (Descending Order of Dominance)					Shrub Abundance 0 to 4 0-absent to 4-very high	Weed/Invasive Species (Descending Order of Dominance)			Weed/Invasive Abundance 0 to 4 0-absent to 4-very high	Broad vegetation and terrain for the plot
		1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3		
1	0	-	-	-	-	-	Bamboo	Solo-ruwa sps	Bambu-ruwa	Cleora	-	1	Fraxi	Madhuca	-	1	Bambos gentle slope
2	0	Bambos	-	-	-	-	Bambos	Bambu-ruwa	Cleora	-	1.5	Fraxi	Hicaria	-	2	Bambos etc. Gentle slope	
3	1	Simal-selam	-	-	-	-	Bambos	Bambu-ruwa	Cleora	-	2	Fraxi	Nicaria	Madhuca	2	Mixed forest Gentle slope	
4	1	Simal-selam	-	-	-	-	Bambos	Solo-ruwa sps	Bambu-ruwa	-	2	Fraxi	Nicaria	-	2	Mixed forest Hill	
5	1-5	Pantai	Saling	Pantai	Bambos	-	Bambos	Cleora	-	-	2	Madhuca	Nicaria	-	3	Mixed forest Hill	
6	2	UM-Karom	Kolung	Bambos	-	-	Bambos	-	-	-	2	UM-Karom	Nicaria	-	2	Mixed forest Hill	
7																	
8																	
9																	
10																	

PIO  
Bandyalwa Forest Division  
Bandyalwa

Data Sheet - 3C

Recording Ground Cover (1 m radius)

P-53

~~1-53~~

Investigator: R. Narayana R  
 Date: 8/4/15  
 Forest Division: Bandurda  
 Range: Durgam  
 ID No. of Line Transect: T/1

	Dry Leaf Litter %	Ground Cover (The following 5 columns should total 100%)					Grass Species (Report in descending order of numbers 1/2)			Herb Species (Report in descending order of numbers)			Remarks	
		Dry Grass %	Green Grass %	Herb (Small Plants) %	Weeds %	Bare Ground %	1	2	3	1	2	3		
1	10%	50%	15%	-	20%	15%	0/K	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2	20%	40%	40%	5%	10%	5%	0/K	0/K	-	-	-	-	-	
3	25%	60%	30%	5%	5%	-	0/K	0/K	-	-	-	-	-	
4	25%	45%	30%	5%	10%	10%	0/K	0/K	-	-	-	-	-	
5	20%	35%	40%	10%	15%	-	0/K	0/K	-	-	-	-	-	
6	30%	20%	30%	20%	25%	5%	0/K	0/K	-	-	-	-	-	
7														
8														
9														
10														

PIO  
 Bandurda Forest Division  
 Gandurda

Data Sheet - 3A  
Vegetation (15m radius plot)

Name of Observer: N. D. Diori, K. Date: 8/4/15 Forest Division: Banderewa Range: Drupong  
Beat: Garubanda ID No. of Line Transect: 5/1

Plot No.	Canopy Cover (0-1)	Tree Species * (Descending Order of Dominance)					Shrub Species/ Shrub like Tree Species * (Descending Order of Dominance)					Shrub Abundance 0 to 4 0-absent to 4-very high	Weed/Invasive Species (Descending Order of Dominance)			Weed/Invasive Abundance 0 to 4 0-absent to 4-very high	Broad vegetation and terrain for the plot
		1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3		
1	0	<del>Pala</del>	<del>Sida</del>	<del>Bamb</del>	-	-	Bamb	<del>Cola</del>	-	-	-	1	Miconia	Sern	-	1	Open forest gentle slope
2	0	Bamb	-	-	-	-	Bamb	Bamb	-	-	-	1	Miconia	Sern	-	1	Bambro at gentle slope
3	0.5	<del>Bamb</del>	Pala	-	-	-	Bamb	Citrus	-	-	-	1	Miconia	Sern	Muller	1.5	Bambro mixed. gentle slope
4	1	Bamb	Pala	Cola	-	-	Bamb	Cola	Sida	-	-	1.5	Sern	Miconia	-	2	Mixed forest
5	2	Pala	Sern	Bamb	Bamb	-	Bamb	Miconia	-	-	-	2	Miconia	Sern	Muller	2	Mixed forest
6	2	Pala	Sida	Bamb	Cola	-	Bamb	Bamb	Citrus	Sida	-	2	Miconia	Sern	-	2.5	Mixed forest
7	2	Sida	Pala	Bamb	-	-	Bamb	Bamb	-	-	-	2	Sern	Miconia	-	2.5	Mixed forest
8																	
9																	
10																	

Signature: *[Signature]*  
PIO  
Banderewa Forest Division  
Banderewa

(P-54)  
15/8  
15/8  
15/8

Data Sheet - 3C  
Recording Ground Cover (1 m radius)

Surveyor: N. D. Jena, K. Date: 8/4/15 Forest Division: Banderdawa Range: Dimpfery

ID No. of Line Transect: 8/1

Plot No.	Dry Leaf Litter %	Ground Cover (The following 5 columns should total 100%)					Grass Species (Report in descending order of numbers 1/2)			Herb Species (Report in descending order of numbers)			Remarks	
		Dry Grass %	Green Grass %	Herb (Small Plants) %	Weeds %	Bare Ground %	1	2	3	1	2	3		
1	20%	50%	30%	10%	5%	5%	0/1K	-	-	-	Fern	-	-	
2	20%	50%	30%	15%	-	5%	0/1K	-	-	-	Fern	-	-	
3	25%	40%	35%	15%	5%	5%	0/1K	0/1K	-	-	Fern	Melastomat	-	
4	10%	40%	35%	20%	-	5%	0/1K	0/1K	-	-	Fern	Kodhu Naloti	-	
5	30%	35%	25%	25%	10%	5%	0/1K	0/1K	-	-	Fern	-	-	
6	20%	35%	60%	-	-	5%	0/1K	-	-	-	Fern	-	-	
7	20%	30%	40%	10%	10%	10%	0/1K	-	-	-	Fern	-	-	
8														
9														
10														

FIO  
Banderdawa Forest Division  
Banderdawa

280/1 15x  
Tzjzrw k  
P-55

Data Sheet - 3C  
Recording Ground Cover (1 m radius)

Beāt: ... *Danpenang* ...  
 Date: ... 8/4/15 ... Forest Division, *Bandarawa* ... Range: ... *Danpenang* ...  
 ID No. of Line Transect: ... *2/1* ...

Plot No.	Dry Leaf Litter %	Ground Cover (The following 5 columns should total 100%)					Grass Species (Report in descending order of numbers 1/2)			Herb Species (Report in descending order of numbers)			Remarks		
		Dry Grass %	Green Grass %	Herb (Small Plants) %	Weeds %	Bare Ground %	1	2	3	1	2	3			
1	20%	60%	10%	15%	10%	5%	1K	1K	-	-	-	Grass	koa fat	-	
2	28%	50%	20%	10%	15%	5%	1K	1K	1K	-	-	Grass	Adans sps	-	
3	25%	40%	20%	28%	5%	5%	1K	1K	-	-	-	Grass	koa fat	-	
4	30%	40%	20%	20%	5%	5%	1K	1K	1K	-	-	Grass	Adans sps	-	
5	20%	35%	20%	20%	10%	-	1K	1K	-	-	-	Grass	-	-	
6	30%	35%	25%	20%	10%	5%	1K	1K	1K	-	-	Grass	-	-	
7	20%	30%	30%	15%	10%	-	1K	1K	-	-	-	Grass	Adans sps	-	
8	20%	20%	20%	30%	20%	-	1K	1K	-	-	-	Grass	Adans sps	-	
9															
10															

*Chymeri*  
PIO  
Bandarawa Forest Division  
Bandarawa

*P-56*  
*P-56*

Data Sheet - 3A  
Vegetation (15m radius plot)

Name of Observer: L.K. Sarkis, R. Date: 8/4/15 Forest Division: Banderdewa Range: Dimpang

Beat: Dimpang ID No. of Line Transect: 1/1

Plot No.	Canopy Cover (0-1)	Tree Species* (Descending Order of Dominance)					Shrub Species/ Shrub like Tree Species* (Descending Order of Dominance)					Shrub Abundance 0 to 4 0-absent to 4-very high	Weed/Invasive Species (Descending Order of Dominance)			Weed/Invasive Abundance 0 to 4 0-absent to 4-very high	Broad vegetation and terrain for the plot		
		1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3				
1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Open forest gentle slope
2	0	Bamb	-	-	-	-	Bamb	Bamb	cler	Bamb	cler	Bamb	cler	Bamb	cler	-	-	-	Bambos gentle slope
3	1	Ramb	klap	Bamb	-	-	Bamb	Bamb	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	Bambos gentle slope
4	2	Ramb	klap	Bamb	-	-	Bamb	Bamb	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	Mixed forest
5	2	Ramb	klap	Bamb	-	-	Bamb	Bamb	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	Mixed forest
6	2	Ramb	klap	Bamb	-	-	Bamb	Bamb	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	Mixed forest
7	2.5	Ramb	klap	Bamb	-	-	Bamb	Bamb	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	Mixed forest
8	2.5	Ramb	klap	Bamb	-	-	Bamb	Bamb	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	Mixed forest
9	2.5	Ramb	klap	Bamb	-	-	Bamb	Bamb	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	cler	Mixed forest
10																			

PIO  
Banderdewa Forest Division  
Banderdewa

(1-57)



Table 2.

Sl. No.	Seized items	No. of Items	Action taken
1	Porcupine	5	Disposed the carcass with proper protocol
2.	Wild fowl	6	Disposed the carcass with proper protocol
3.	Slow Loris	1	Disposed the carcass with proper protocol
6.	Wild Rats	8	Disposed the carcass with proper protocol
	Air-gun	1	Seized
	Chain-Saw machine	1	Seized
7.	Monkey Leg carcass		Disposed the carcass with proper protocol
	Total	22	

Using proper protocol the seized carcass were disposed off by burning in presence of Circle Officer, Officer-Incharge of Hollongi Police Check Gate, Media and Public (Photo enclosed).


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

Enclosed: As stated above

Your's faithfully,  
Beat Forest Officer  
Hollongi Forest  
(N. Raksh) (A.P)

Memo No. BJN/02/2020/232. Dtd. 30/12/2024

Forwarded to D.F.O.  
Banderdewa for his necessary  
action please.

  
Range Forest Officer  
Balijan Forest Range  
Balijan (A.P.)

  
PIO  
Banderdewa Forest Division  
Banderdewa



*Chymer*  
 P/O  
 Banderdewa Forest Division  
 Banderdewa

*[Signature]*  
 B.A.P. Officer  
 Hollongi Forest  
 Beat (A.P)



Beat Forest Officer  
 Hollongi Forest  
 Beat (A.P)

PIO  
 Ganderdewa Forest Division  
 Banderdewa

Beat Forest Officer  
 Hollongi Forest  
 Beat (A.P)

To,

The Public Information Officer  
Divisional Forest Office, Banderdewa  
Government of Arunachal Pradesh

Subject: **Application under Right to Information Act, 2005**

Sir

Under the Right to Information Act, 2005, I request you to provide the following information regarding the Drupang Reserve Forest, located in Papumpare District, Arunachal Pradesh:

**1. Please provide the following details regarding Drupang RF & its encroachment:**

- a) Provide the certified copy of original notification with map of originally notified RF boundaries with GPS coordinates
- b) Total area (in hectares) of the Drupang Reserve Forest that has been encroached upon in the last **20 years**.
- c) GPS coordinates and survey numbers of all identified encroachment sites
- d) Number of complaints received regarding encroachment till date
- e) Action taken reports on each complaint received.

**2. Regarding illegal earth cutting operations:**

- a. Number of cases registered against illegal earth cutting activities in the past **20 years**
- b. Details of machinery seized, if any, including dates and locations
- c. Number of FIRs filed against illegal earth cutting operations
- d. Copies of inspection reports regarding unstable slopes and landslide risks in every Sectors.

**3. Enforcement actions:**

- a. Number of forest officers assigned to monitor the Drupang Reserve Forest
- b. Patrol records and site inspection reports for the past 20 years.
- c. Number of show-cause notices issued to encroachers
- d. Details of penalties imposed and collected from violators

**3. Environmental impact assessment:**

- a) Latest assessment report on the impact of encroachment on wildlife corridors
- b) Survey reports of affected water bodies and natural springs

Received  
Tamm  
06/04/2025

APIO  
O/O D.F.O. Banderdewa  
Arunachal Pradesh

- c) Documentation of endangered species affected by the encroachment
- d) Assessment reports of soil erosion and landslide risks

**4. Infrastructure protection measures:**

- a) Reports on siltation affecting the Drupang RF
- b) Measures taken to protect the RF for destabilization
- c) Coordination reports with other departments regarding infrastructure protection,

**5. Administrative actions:**

- a) Copies of departmental orders issued regarding forest protection in the past 20 years
- b) Minutes of meetings held to address the encroachment issue
- c) Budget allocated and utilized for forest protection measures
- d) Number of staff deployed specifically for anti-encroachment activities

**6. Mode of Information Required:**

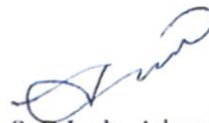
- Certified copies of documents where available
- Soft copies/CD for maps and large documents
- Inspection of relevant files where copies cannot be provided

7. **Details of RTI Application Fee:** Amount: Rs. 10/-

8. **Mode of Payment:** IPO No. 66F 800613 and Date- 30.12.2024

Place: Itanagar.

Date: 06.01.2025



S. D Loda, Advocate

Darang Building Near Arun Subansiri

Po-Itanagar-791111

Mob-7085972500

Email: sdlonda@gmail.com



GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER  
BANDERDEWA FOREST DIVISION: BANDERDEWA

No. SUB/69/2024/RTI/ 345

Dtd. 31/01/2025

To,

✓ Shri S.D. Loda, Advocate  
Darang building Near Arun Subansiri  
Po:-Itanagar  
Pin:- 791111  
Arunachal Pradesh  
Phone No. 7085972500.

Sub:- **Information under RTI Act/2005.**

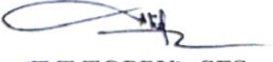
Ref:- Your application No. Nil dtd. 07/01/2025.

With reference to your application No. Nil Dtd. 07/01/2025 this is to furnish the following documents as desired by you.

1. **Please provide the following details regarding Drupong RF & its encroachment:**
  - a) Provide the certified copy of original notification with map of originally notified RF boundaries with GPS coordinates.:-**Map enclosed.**
  - b) Total area (in hectares) of the Drupong Reserve Forest that has been encroached upon in the last 20 years.:- **458.436 ha.**
  - c) GPS coordinates and survey numbers of all identified encroachment sites:-  
**No such survey done on encroachment site.**
  - d) Number of complaints received regarding encroachment till date:-**351 Nos.**
  - e) Action taken reports on each complaint received:- **An offence report has been drawn against the encroachments and the same has been enclosed to CJM, Yupia.**
2. **Regarding illegal earth cutting operations:**
  - a) Number of cases registered against illegal earth cutting activities in the past 20 years :-**351 Nos.**
  - b) Details of machinery seized, if any, including dates and locations.:-**Nil.**
  - c) Number of FIRs filed against illegal earth cutting operations :- **1 No.**
  - d) Copies of inspection reports regarding unstable slopes and landslide risks in every Sectors:- **Not done.**
3. **Enforcement actions:**
  - a) Number of forest officers assigned to monitor the Drupong Reserve Forest:- **4 Nos.**
  - b) Patrol records and site inspection reports for the past 20 years.:- **Not available.**
  - c) Number of Show-cause notice issued to encroachments :- **59 Nos.**
  - d) Details of penalties imposed and collected from violators :- **Rs.4000/-**

3. **Environmental impact assessment**
  - a) Latest assessment report on the impact of encroachment on wildlife corridors :- **No such assessment done.**
  - b) Survey reports of affected water bodies and natural; springs:- **Survey not done.**
  - c) Documentation of endangered species affected by the encroachment:- **Documentation not done.**
  - d) Assessment reports of soil erosion and land side risks:- **Not assessed.**
4. **Infrastructure protection measures**
  - a) Reports on siltation affecting the Drupong RF:- **Not available.**
  - b) Measures taken to protect the RF for destabilization:-**Tree planting, soil & moisture conservation, regular patrolling and awareness campaign.**
  - c) Coordination reports with other departments regarding infrastructure protection:- **Not available.**
5. **Administrative actions**
  - a) Copies of departmental orders issued regarding Forest Protection in the past 20 years:- **Not clear.**
  - b) Minutes of meetings held to address the encroachment issue: -**No such minutes drawn but time to time issued directions to Range Officers to keep vigil on Forests to contain illegal activities.**
  - c) Budget allocated and utilized for forest protection measures :- **Rs. 40,63,000/-**
  - d) Number of staff deployed specifically for anti- encroachment activities. :-**Not done**

Encl:- As above.

  
(T.T.TOPPU), SFS  
Public Information Officer  
Banderdewa Forest Division  
Banderdewa

3

The 16th August 1978

No. FOR. 223/71. — In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 17 of the Assam Forest Regulation 1891 (VII of 1891) read with section 3 of the North East Frontier Agency (Construction of references to State Government) Regulation 1965 (No. 4 of 1965) as adopted and modified by the North Eastern Areas (Re-organisation) (Arunachal Pradesh) Adoption of Laws Order 1977, the Lt. Governor, Arunachal Pradesh is hereby pleased to declare that the land described in the Schedule hereto annexed shall be Reserved Forest from the date of publication of this Notification.

## SCHEDULE

District : Subansiri District (Arunachal Pradesh)

Name of Forest : Drupong Reserved Forests.

Area : 420.75 Sq. Km. (Appox.)

## Boundary of Drupong Reserved Forests

North-East :— From the junction of Papum river and Poma river along the right bank of Poma river to a point where the foot path from Bolo and Boro village joins, i.e., joins at a height point of 245 (i.e. the starting point of Southern boundary of Itanagar Reserved Forests) From this point of Southern boundary of Itanagar Reserved Forests) From this point, i.e. the confluence of an unknown tributary along its upstream to a height point of 613 — Thence an artificial line South-East wards approx. 5 Km. till it meets the source of Chimpu nallah thence along the left bank of Chimpu nallah till it meets the junction of Senkhi nallah with Pachin river, at a height point of 210. Thence along the left bank of Pachin nallah to its junction with Dikrong river thence along the left bank of Dikrong river upto a point where the Inner line boundary starts, thence along the Inner line upto a point near Tarajuli Range Forest office.

South-West :— Thence along the Inner line towards South-West to Ramghat (Simna), where it cross Boro river thence along the right bank of Boro river to the starting point of North-East boundary.

Note :— 1. The following areas are excluded from the Reserved Forest.

(a) Jhum land required for Jotay, Tabung, Naharlagun and Lekhi villages. The entire flat land demarcated in the map approx. 78 Sq. Km.

(b) The entire flat land from Jotay will in the West upto the boundary of reserve in the East — demarcated in the map approx. 6.5 Sq. Km.

(c) Homestead and cultivation areas in the remaining villages including flat land for W. R. cultivation approx. 8.65 Sq. Km.

(d) The temporary capital of Naharlagun approx. 2 Sq. Km.

(e) Lekhi village 7 Sq. Km and Nirjuli Livestock <sup>farm</sup> 1.5 Sq. Km. and Fodder Farm of Kharsingsa approx. 75 Sq. Km.

(f) 5/1 Central Public Works Division, Civil Division Headquarter of Divisional Forest Officer, Headquarter of Conservator of Forest, Western Circle Police Training Centre Banderdewa and Industrial area approx. 25 hect.

(g) Sonajuli Agriculture farm 2.75 Sq. Km.

(h) The Chakma settlement area which starts from Changmara to Mafoni river — i.e. flat land between Inner Line and foothills excluding existing plantation area demarcated, approx. area 14 Sq. Km.

(i) Balijan village, Balijan Circle Headquarters approx. 1.5 Sq. Km.

(j) Tabung village 9 Sq. Km., Lenka village, 45 Sq. Km. (demarcated).

Banded  
Banderdewa Division

1. The indigenous inhabitants of the abovementioned villages will have the following rights:—

(i) Rights:

- (a) To use roads and path for men or cattle existing or that may be made within the said Reserved Forests.  
 (b) To use water of water sources.  
 (c) To graze their cattle, except in forest negotiation and plantation area.  
 (d) To cut or use timber and other forest produces for their domestic use, only on valid authority.

2. Privilege:—

- (i) To hunt wild animals and birds within the limits of Wild Life Protection Act, 1972.

E. S. Thangam,  
 Secretary (Forests),  
 Government of Arunachal Pradesh,  
 Itanagar.

The 16th August 1978

No. FOR. 80/77.—In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 17 of the Assam Forest Regulation 1891 (VII of 1891) read with section 3 of the North East Frontier Agency (Construction of references to State Government) Regulation 1965 (No. 4 of 1965) as adopted and modified by the North Eastern Area (Re-organisation) (Arunachal Pradesh) adoption of Laws Order 1972, the Lt. Governor, Arunachal Pradesh is hereby pleased to declare that the land described in the Schedule hereto annexed shall be Reserved Forest from the date of publication of this notification.

SCHEDULE

District : Lohit District. (Arunachal Pradesh)

Name of Forests : Udio-Majam Reserve Forest.

Name of the District.	Name of Forest	Approx. area in Sq.Km.	Description of the boundaries
Lohit District of Arunachal Pradesh	Udio-Majam Reserve Forest	41.75 Sq.Km.	<p>North:—From the confluence of Denning nala with Lohit river follow Denning nala upstream till it meets the Badarpur road then follow the road in North-West direction till it meets the Digaru—Lohitpur road call it point 'A'.</p> <p>South:— Follow Lohitpur-Digaru road in South.</p> <p>West:—West direction till it meets the old 29th Mile stone, then follow the Eastern boundary of Digaru R. F. till it meets Lohit river call it point 'B'.</p> <p>East:— From B follow right Bank Lohit river upstream till it meet Denning nala. The following areas are excluded from the reservation for the following purposes.</p> <p>1. Tibetan settlement —650 Mtrs.            2. S. S. B. — 50 ..            3. Future expansion of Tezu Township —200 ..            4. Teluliang village (old 1 mile stone vilage) —100 ..            5. Lohiang Project area —300 ..</p>

E. S. Thangam,  
 Secretary (Forests),  
 Government of Arunachal Pradesh,  
 Itanagar.

0  
 Banderdewa Forest Division  
 Banderdewa



**ANNEXURE A/8**

**COPY OF THE LATEST SATELLITE IMAGERIES AVAILABLE ON GOOGLE EARTH SHOWING MASSIVE ILLEGAL EARTH CUTTING AND ENCROACHMENTS IN THE DRUPANG RESERVE FOREST:**



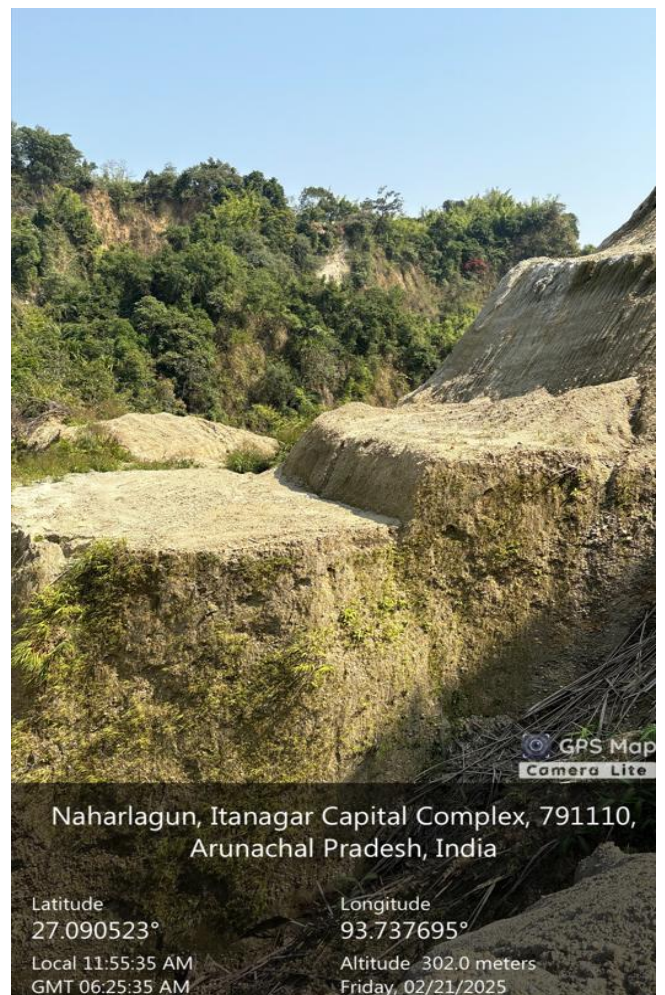
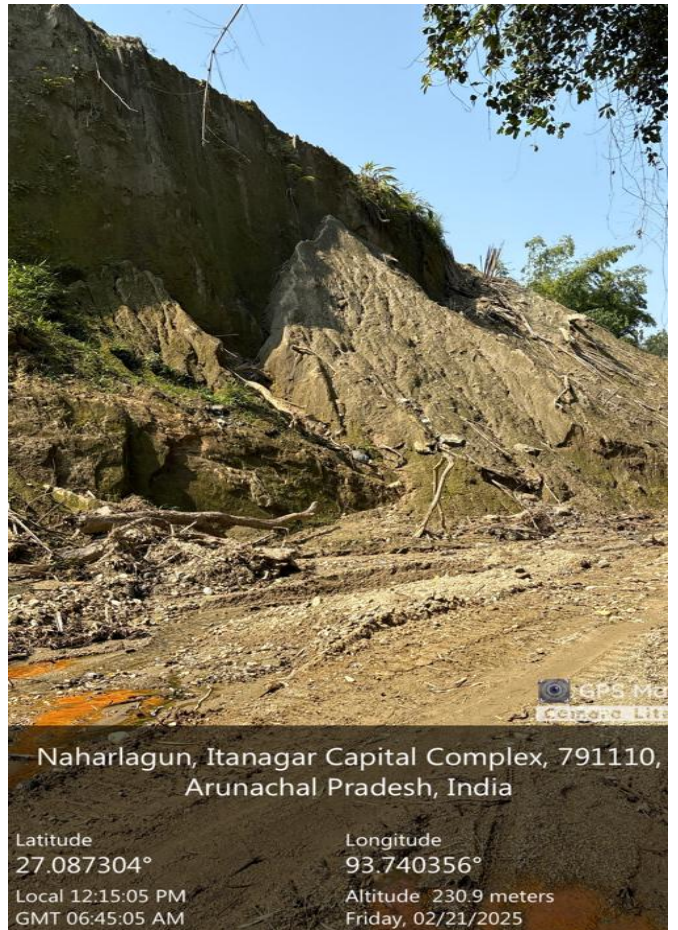
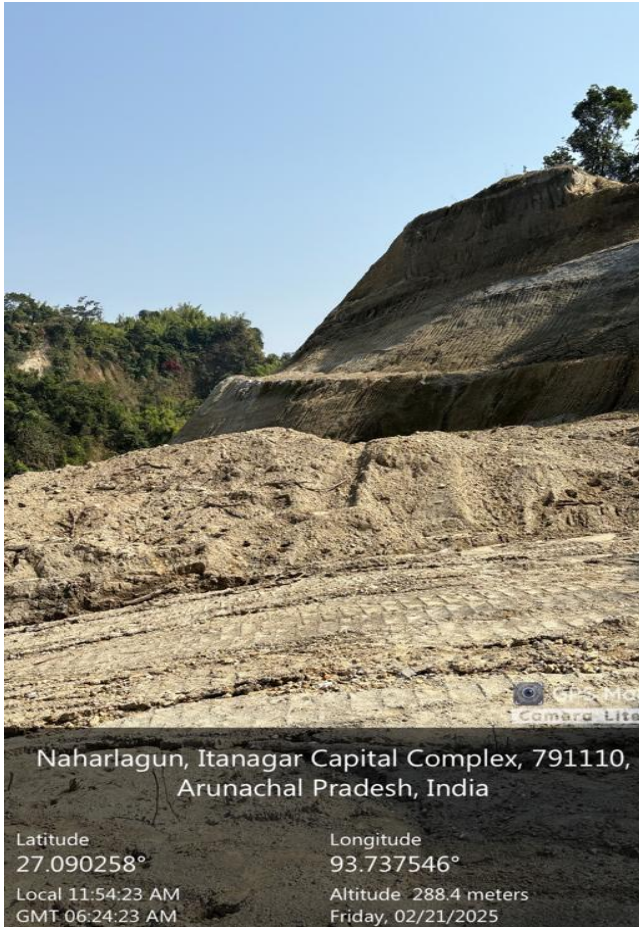






**ANNEXURE A/9**

**COPY OF THE IMAGES TAKEN BY THE APPLICANTS SHOWING ILLEGAL EARTH CUTTING AND ENCROACHMENTS IN THE DRUPANG RESERVE FOREST:**



To

The Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh  
Raj Bhavan, Itanagar  
Arunachal Pradesh - 791111

**Sub : Urgent Intervention Required Under Article 371H to Address Encroachment in Drupang Reserve Forest, Papumpare District.**

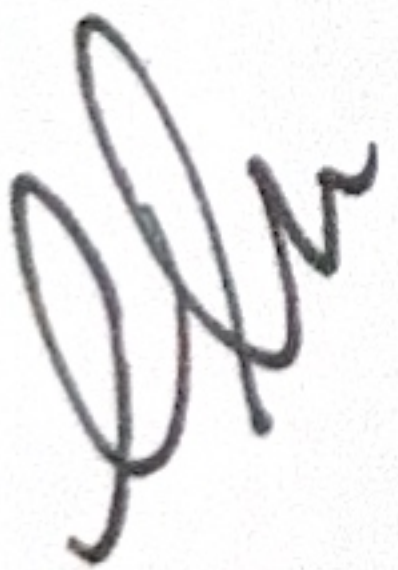
Your Excellency,

I am writing to seek your immediate intervention, invoking your special constitutional powers under Article 371H of the Indian Constitution. As the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, you are vested with special responsibility for law and order and considerable discretionary powers in exercising your functions. I bring to your urgent attention the alarming situation of widespread encroachment taking place in the Drupang Reserve Forest, located in Papumpare District. This protected forest area, which serves as a crucial ecological corridor and biodiversity hotspot in our state, is facing unprecedented threats from illegal encroachment activities.

**The current situation demands immediate intervention due to rampant illegal activities, most alarmingly:**

1. Widespread illegal earth cutting operations that are:
  - a) Operating extensively along the forest's southern ridge and eastern buffer zones

- b) Using heavy excavators, bulldozers, and tipper trucks, particularly during early morning and late evening hours
  - c) Destabilizing hillsides and creating hazardous slope conditions, especially in Sectors 3 and 4 of the reserve forest
  - d) Creating multiple 20-30-meter-high unstable cut slopes that pose immediate landslide risks
  - e) Destroying critical wildlife corridors, particularly in the northeastern section
  - f) Operating illegally through access roads from the Chimpu-Holongi National Highway
  - g) Dumping excavated material directly into forest streams, causing siltation which poses threat to the Holongi-Chimpu National Highway-415 connecting state lone **airport**, Holongi with state capital
  - h) Creating artificial flat lands spanning several hectares for unauthorized construction
  - i) Causing severe soil erosion, with visible cracks appearing on adjacent slopes
  - j) Destroying natural springs and water sources relied upon by local communities
2. Large-scale unauthorized occupation and clearing of forest land, including illegal construction of permanent structures, agricultural encroachment, and commercial exploitation that has already consumed an estimated significant portion of the protected forest area.



3. Destruction of natural habitat critical for indigenous flora and fauna, particularly endangering native species like the Mishmi Takin, Clouded Leopard, and various medicinal plants unique to this region.
4. Severe disruption of vital wildlife corridors connecting the Drupang Reserve Forest to neighbouring protected areas, threatening the natural migration patterns and survival of various species, particularly during breeding seasons.
5. Potentially irreversible damage to the forest's watershed functions, affecting numerous streams and water bodies that serve as lifelines for downstream communities, and increasing the risk of soil erosion, landslides, and flash floods.
6. Direct threat to the traditional rights and livelihoods of local communities who have depended on these forest resources for generations, including their access to traditional medicinal plants, non-timber forest products, and sacred groves

**The Drupang Reserve Forest represents an irreplaceable ecological heritage that serves multiple critical functions:**

1. Natural Water Security System

- I. Functions as a crucial catchment area for major river systems in the region
- II. Maintains groundwater levels through natural aquifer recharge
- III. Regulates water flow preventing flash floods during monsoons
- IV. Ensures year-round water availability for agricultural and domestic use in surrounding areas

2. Biodiversity Sanctuary

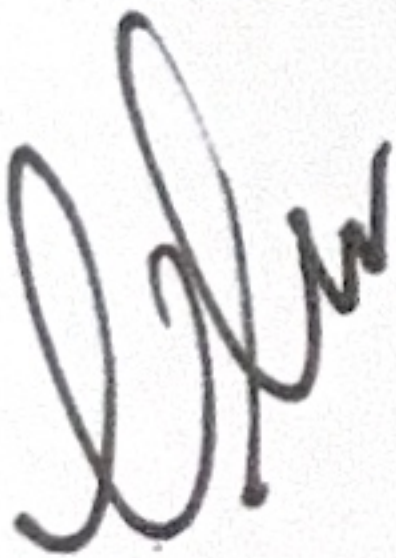
- I. Houses over several endangered species including rare orchids and medicinal plants
- II. Provides breeding grounds for threatened wildlife species
- III. Maintains genetic diversity crucial for species survival
- IV. Supports complex food webs and ecological relationships

### 3. Community Lifeline

- I. Sustains traditional livelihoods through sustainable forest produce
- II. Provides medicinal plants used in traditional healing practices
- III. Supports local agriculture through natural pollination services
- IV. Maintains soil fertility for surrounding farmlands
- V. Preserves cultural heritage sites and sacred groves

### 4. Climate Change Mitigation Centre

- I. Acts as a significant carbon sink, sequestering thousands of tons of carbon annually
- II. Moderates local climate conditions
- III. Reduces soil erosion and prevents landslides
- IV. Maintains regional rainfall patterns
- V. Buffers against extreme weather events



Under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980, and various Supreme Court directives, it is our collective responsibility to protect and preserve these forest areas for future generations. The continued encroachment not only violates these legal provisions but also threatens the ecological security of our region.

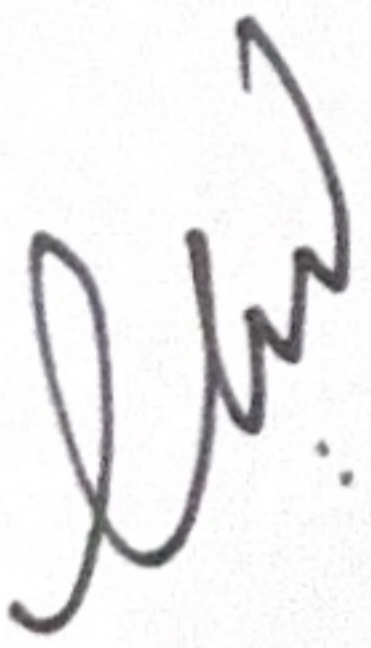
**Of particular concern is not only the threat to critical infrastructure but also the complete absence of enforcement and accountability within the Forest Department:**

1. The Forest Department's officials have demonstrated severe dereliction of duty through:

- a. Deliberate failure to initiate any legal proceedings against encroachers despite clear evidence
- b. Complete absence of enforcement actions against illegal earth cutting activities
- c. No seizure of heavy machinery operating illegally within forest premises
- d. Zero penalties imposed on unauthorized construction activities
- e. Systematic failure to file mandatory reports on forest violations
- f. No action taken to remove illegal structures
- g. Deliberate overlooking of commercial exploitation of forest resources
- h. Absence of proper documentation of violations
- i. No follow-up on public complaints and reported violations
- j. Failure to coordinate with law enforcement despite clear jurisdiction

2. This pattern of inaction strongly suggests:

- a. A systematic breakdown of forest protection mechanisms
- b. Possible collusion with encroachers
- c. Complete disregard for statutory responsibilities
- d. Deliberate negligence in protecting state resources

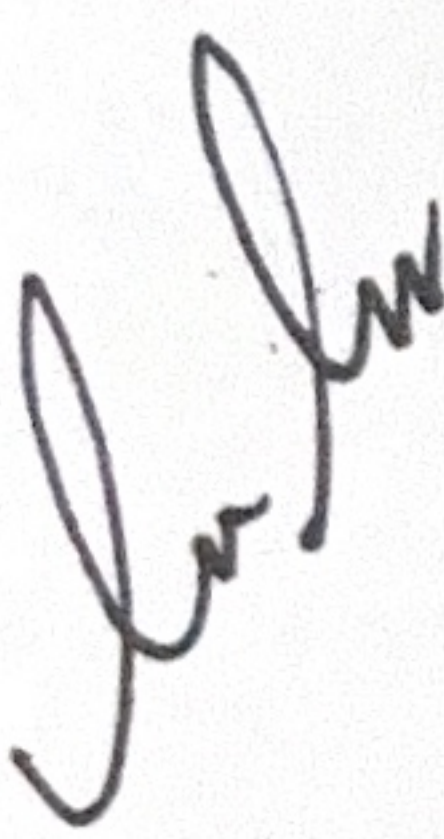


e. Violation of Forest Conservation Act provisions

3. The siltation caused by illegal dumping poses a direct risk to the Holongi Airport connectivity
4. The stability of the Chimpu-Holongi National Highway is being compromised
5. This endangers both vital transportation infrastructure and public safety

**Given your special powers under Article 371H of the Constitution, which entrusts you with greater responsibility and authority in matters concerning the protection of Arunachal Pradesh's resources and maintenance of law and order, I respectfully urge your office to:**

1. Order an immediate high-level inquiry into the Forest Department's systematic failure to enforce forest protection laws
2. Direct immediate suspension and disciplinary proceedings against officials responsible for this gross dereliction of duty
3. Establish an independent commission to investigate potential collusion between forest officials and encroachers
4. Create an independent special task force bypassing the current forest administration
5. Order immediate documentation of all forest violations that have been overlooked
6. Establish a direct reporting mechanism to your office for forest-related violations
7. Direct the State Vigilance Department to investigate the pattern of non-enforcement



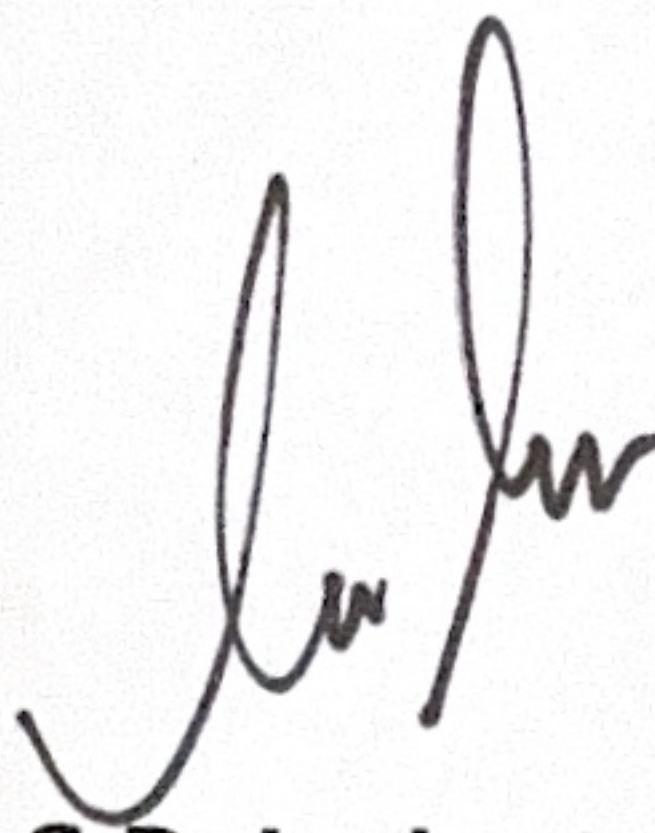
8. Implement a new oversight mechanism with mandatory weekly reporting of enforcement actions
9. Order immediate prosecution of all identified violations under the Forest Conservation Act
10. Institute a judicial inquiry into the systematic breakdown of forest protection

Early intervention is crucial to prevent irreversible damage to this precious ecological resource. I request your esteemed office to treat this matter with utmost urgency and initiate necessary actions to protect the Drupang Reserve Forest.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Date: **[08.01.2025]**

Yours sincerely,



**S.D. Loda, Advocate**

**Gauhati High court,**

**Itanagar permanent Bench: Yupia-791110**

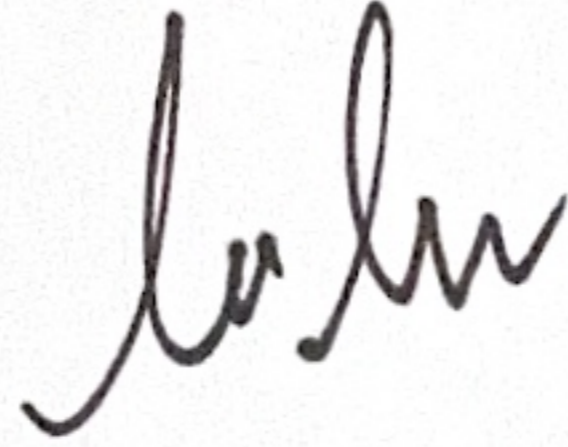
**Enrolment No. 938/2015**

**Mobile No.7085972500**

**Email- sdlonda@gmail.com**

Copy to:

1. The Chief Secretary, Government of Arunachal Pradesh for kind information and necessary action please.
2. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India for kind information and necessary action please.
3. Principal Secretary cum Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Arunachal Pradesh for kind information and necessary action please.
4. Deputy Commissioner, Papumpare District for kind information and necessary action please.
5. Divisional Forest officer, Banderdewa Forest division for kind information and necessary action please.



**S.D. Loda, Advocate**

**Gauhati High court,**

**Itanagar permanent Bench: Yupia-791110**

**Enrolment No. 938/2015**

**Mobile No.7085972500**

**Email- sdlonda@gmail.com**

**To****Date: 05.02.2025**

**The Secretary  
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change  
Govt. of India Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Jor Bagh Road New Delhi – 110003**

**Sub : MOST URGENT - Second Notice: Critical Intervention Required to Address Severe Environmental Violations and Systematic Destruction of Drupang Reserve Forest, Arunachal Pradesh**

Dear Sir

This serves as an urgent follow-up to our previous communications regarding the ongoing environmental crisis in Drupang Reserve Forest. The situation has deteriorated to a point where immediate central intervention is not just necessary but crucial to prevent irreversible ecological damage.

**Background and Legal Status:**

The Drupang Reserve Forest, notified under Notification No. FOR.233/78 dated 16.08.1978, represents a critical ecological zone that is currently facing systematic and organized destruction. This protected area falls under special protection as per Supreme Court directives and various environmental protection laws.

**Critical Violations and Immediate Threats**

**1. Unprecedented Scale of Encroachment (Documented Evidence Available)**

- 351 confirmed cases of illegal encroachment and earth cutting (Per Banderdewa Forest Division records)
- Many unreported cases illegal going on.
- Large-scale unauthorized RCC construction and commercial developments
- Systematic destruction of forest cover along the strategic Chimpu-Holongi National Highway

- Deliberate alteration of natural topography through mechanical earth cutting

## 2. **Severe Environmental Impact Assessment**

- Critical wildlife corridors (**Dulug-Subansiri and Khundakhuwa-Nowbhaga**) **severely compromised**
- Destruction of perennial water sources affecting regional water security
- Creation of hazardous 20-30 meter cut slopes posing immediate landslide risks
- Direct threat to IUCN Red Listed species including Mishmi Takin and Clouded Leopard
- Severe siltation affecting National Highway-415 infrastructure

## 3. **Systemic Protection Failures**

- Only 13.7% of documented violations (48 out of 351 cases) legally addressed
- Zero enforcement against heavy machinery operating illegally
- Critically understaffed protection infrastructure:
  - 88 staff managing entire division
  - Only 11 checkpoints operational
  - Complete absence of modern surveillance equipment

## 4. **Strategic Infrastructure Risk**

- Direct threat to Hologgi Airport connectivity
- Compromise of National Highway stability
- Endangerment of regional water security systems

**Legal Violations** The ongoing destruction constitutes multiple violations under:

- Forest Conservation Act, 1980 (Sections 2 and 3)
- Assam Forest Regulation 1891 (as applicable to Arunachal Pradesh)
- Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 (Sections 9, 27, and 29)
- Supreme Court Orders in T.N. Godavarman Thirumulkpad vs Union of India

## **Urgent Interventions Required**

**1. Immediate Actions (Within 7 Days)**

- Constitution of a Central Monitoring Committee
- Immediate cessation of all construction and earth cutting activities
- Deployment of rapid response forest protection team

**2. Short-Term Measures (Within 30 Days)**

- Investigation into potential official collusion
- Implementation of emergency rehabilitation measures
- Installation of surveillance systems
- Establishment of additional forest protection posts

**3. Long-Term Solutions**

- Development of comprehensive forest protection strategy
- Regular monitoring and compliance reporting to NGT
- Implementation of modern forest management systems

Given the gravity of this situation and its implications for national ecological security, we request your office to treat this matter with utmost urgency. Please note that failure to receive appropriate response within 15 working days will necessitate seeking intervention from the National Green Tribunal.

Yours faithfully,

[S.D. Loda],

**Advocate**

**Gauhati High Court Itanagar Permanent Bench:**

**Yupia-791110 Mobile: 7085972500 Email: [sdlonda@gmail.com](mailto:sdlonda@gmail.com)**

**Enclosures:**

1. RTI Response from Banderdewa Forest Division (Ref: No. SUB/10/2023/RTI/346)
2. Forest Notification documents
3. List of show cause notices issued
4. Map of Drupong Reserve Forest

To,

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
Department of Environment and Forests  
Government of Arunachal Pradesh  
Itanagar -- 791111  
Dated Itanagar:18<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Sub: Complaint Against Unauthorized Construction of State Highway Within Protected Drupang Reserve Forest by PWD Naharlagun Division.

**Regarding:** C/o Donyi-Polo Airport, Holongi to Railway Station, Naharlagun via Sonajuli under Drupang Reserve Forest.

Learned Sir,

I am writing to bring to your urgent attention a matter of grave environmental concern regarding unauthorized construction activities being carried out by **the Public Works Department (PWD), Naharlagun Division**, within the protected Drupang Reserve Forest area, a notified Reserved Forest since 1978 (Notification No. FOR.233/78 dated 16.08.1978). This complaint is based on documented evidence collected during a site inspection.

1. That the construction activities in question are taking place within the Drupang Reserve Forest, specifically between coordinates 27.079839°N to 27.098262°N latitude and 93.730162°E to 93.752646°E longitude, at altitudes ranging from 209.4 to 302.0 meters. Additional GPS documentation confirms construction activities at multiple points within this area, including at coordinates 27.091998°N, 93.737627°E (289.7m); 27.090280°N, 93.737530°E (281.4m); 27.093346°N, 93.737359°E (287.5m); 27.092353°N, 93.737674°E (289.1m); 27.090264°N, 93.737541°E (288.8m); 27.090523°N, 93.737695°E (302.0m); 27.087304°N, 93.740356°E (230.9m); and 27.087276°N, 93.740294°E (233.5m)

Received  
18/03/25

2. During the site inspection, we observed extensive unauthorized construction activities being carried out without the mandatory approvals from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The PWD has undertaken large-scale hill cutting operations, creating vertical cuts of 15-20 meters in height. Heavy machinery is being employed for earth moving and road construction, causing severe disruption to the forest ecosystem. Most alarmingly, these activities are being conducted without any visible environmental safeguards or protection measures.
3. That the environmental damage caused by these activities is extensive and potentially irreversible. Our documentation shows widespread deforestation and removal of native vegetation, including valuable bamboo groves that are crucial to the local ecosystem. The construction has severely disrupted wildlife habitats and altered natural drainage patterns. The steep vertical cuts made in the hillsides have created unstable slopes that pose serious risks of soil erosion and landslides, particularly during the upcoming monsoon season.
4. That such activities within the heart of the Reserve Forest constitute clear violations of multiple environmental protection laws and regulations. The construction is being carried out without the mandatory clearances required under *Section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 (previously known as the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, renamed by Act 15 of 2023, effective December 1, 2023)*, which explicitly states in *Section 2(1)*: "Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force in a State, no State Government or other authority shall make, except with the prior approval of the Central Government, any order directing—(i) that any reserved forest or

*any portion thereof, shall cease to be reserved; (ii) that any forest land or any portion thereof may be used for any non-forest purpose." This road construction clearly constitutes a "non-forest purpose" as defined in the Act's Explanation under Section 2: "For the purposes of this section 'non-forest purpose' means the breaking up or clearing of any forest land or portion thereof for (a) the cultivation of tea, coffee, spices, rubber, palms, oil-bearing plants, horticultural crops or medicinal plants; (b) any purpose other than reforestation." Furthermore, Section 3A of the Act prescribes penalties for contraventions, stating: "Whoever contravenes or abets the contravention of any of the provisions of section 2, shall be punishable with simple imprisonment for a period which may extend to fifteen days." The construction also violates the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2002. There appears to be no Environmental Impact Assessment conducted, nor any approval obtained from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. These actions also contravene the Supreme Court's landmark judgment in **T.N. Godavarman Thirumulpad vs. Union of India & Ors. (Writ Petition No. 202/1995)**, where the Court held that the term "forest" must be understood in its broadest sense and that all ongoing activities within any forest in any State throughout India without the prior approval of the Central Government must cease forthwith.*

5. That it has been observed during our inspection that the construction activities have severely damaged critical catchment areas of several local water bodies, including natural springs and seasonal streams that feed into larger river systems. These catchment areas play a vital role in maintaining the hydrological balance of the region, regulating water flow, recharging groundwater, and supporting riparian ecosystems. The extensive deforestation and earth-moving operations have disrupted

natural water percolation patterns and destroyed vegetative cover that previously prevented soil erosion. This damage threatens not only the immediate forest ecosystem but also downstream water quality and availability for local communities who depend on these water sources. The siltation of water bodies resulting from increased erosion further compounds this environmental damage, potentially affecting aquatic biodiversity and water storage capacity.

6. That the Drupang Reserve Forest is a documented habitat for elephants, forming a critical part of their migration corridor in the region. During our site inspection, we discovered evidence of recent elephant movement, including footprints and feeding signs, indicating that the area is actively used by these endangered pachyderms. The ongoing construction activities directly intersect with this elephant habitat, fragmenting their movement corridors and restricting access to essential resources such as water sources and feeding grounds. This disruption poses significant risks to both the elephant population and potentially to human settlements as displaced elephants may be forced into human-inhabited areas, escalating human-elephant conflicts. We note that no wildlife survey or elephant movement study was conducted prior to the commencement of construction, which represents a serious oversight given the known presence of this protected species in the area. This violation directly contravenes the Supreme Court's ruling in **Centre for Environmental Law, WWF-I vs. Union of India & Ors. (Writ Petition No. 337/1995)**, wherein the Court emphasized the importance of elephant corridors and directed that "all States shall prepare a comprehensive plan for the preservation of elephant corridors within a period of six months in consultation with Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) to preserve the migratory

path of elephants, regardless of whether it was forest land, revenue land, private land, agricultural land or otherwise."

7. That as per established procedure outlined in the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022, a mandatory joint survey was supposed to be conducted by officials from the Forest Department and the user agency (PWD) prior to any construction activities. This joint survey serves the crucial purpose of delineating the exact forest area to be diverted, identifying sensitive ecological zones, documenting existing biodiversity, and establishing appropriate mitigation measures. Our investigation reveals that no such joint survey was ever conducted for this project. This fundamental procedural violation has resulted in construction being carried out without any consideration for ecological sensitivities or proper demarcation of forest boundaries, leading to indiscriminate clearing of forest areas beyond what might have been permissible even under proper clearance procedures.
  
8. That under the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act, 2023, and related provisions of the Arunachal Pradesh Forest Act, prior written permission must be obtained from the authorized Forest Department officials before any cutting of trees in reserved forest areas. The Act clearly requires prior approval from the Central Government before forest land can be used for non-forest purposes, including infrastructure development. Furthermore, as stipulated in the Act, any such approval must follow the proper procedural requirements set forth in the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022. Our investigation confirms that the PWD Naharlagun Division commenced extensive tree felling operations without seeking or obtaining any such permission. This unauthorized tree felling is a direct contravention of forest laws and constitutes a serious criminal offense.

Furthermore, the legally mandated process requiring pre-construction marking of trees and documentation of other vegetation to be removed was completely disregarded. No inventory of affected flora was prepared, nor was any documentation submitted to the Forest Department regarding the species, number, girth, and ecological value of trees slated for removal. This has resulted in unregulated and undocumented destruction of forest resources, potentially including rare, endangered, or ecologically significant species.

9. That the complete absence of these mandatory procedural formalities -- including joint survey, permission for tree cutting, marking and documentation of affected vegetation -- constitutes not merely administrative oversight but deliberate circumvention of established environmental safeguards. Such intentional bypassing of legal requirements indicates a concerning level of disregard for forest conservation laws by the PWD, Naharlagun Division. These violations are particularly egregious given that the PWD, as a government agency, is expected to demonstrate exemplary compliance with environmental regulations and serve as a model for responsible infrastructure development.
  
10. That these grave violations on the part of the PWD, Naharlagun Division, invite substantial penalties under various forest conservation laws, including but not limited to: penalties under the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act, 2023, which specifically prohibits the use of forest land for non-forest purposes without prior Central Government approval; provisions of the Arunachal Pradesh Forest Act regarding unauthorized activities in reserved forests; and compensation for ecological damage as per the Net Present Value framework established by

the Supreme Court. The Act's primary purpose, as stated in its preamble, is "to provide for the conservation of forests and for matters connected therewith," a purpose that has been flagrantly disregarded in this case. Furthermore, in **Lafarge Umiam Mining Private Limited vs. Union of India & Ors. (2011)**, the Supreme Court reaffirmed the centrality of the Forest Conservation Act in India's environmental jurisprudence, holding that "the 1980 Act is a regulatory mechanism which seeks sustainable development by prescribing projects which can be allowed in forest areas along with conservation techniques to be undertaken as conditions for such approval" and that "the National Forest Policy imposes a heavy duty on the State to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country." In the same judgment, the Court emphasized that "the economic value of a forest as a carbon sink and a preserver of biodiversity is now being recognized" and established a range of compensatory measures for violations. Additionally, these violations may attract penalties under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, which provides for imprisonment up to five years and/or fine up to one lakh rupees, with additional fines for continuing offenses. We urge that these penalty provisions be invoked to their full extent given the deliberate nature of the violations and the substantial environmental damage caused.

11. Furthermore, it is deeply concerning to note the complete dereliction of duty by the local forest officials who have failed to prevent or report these unauthorized activities. Despite their statutory responsibility to protect and preserve forest areas under their jurisdiction, these officials have allowed extensive construction work to proceed without any intervention. The scale and duration of these construction activities suggest a prolonged period of negligence, raising serious

questions about their competence and integrity. This failure to discharge their official duties warrants immediate disciplinary proceedings under the **Central Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1965**, against all responsible forest officials, including the Range Forest Officer, Deputy Range Forest Officer, and Beat Officers of the concerned area.

12. That the photographic evidence collected during our inspection, which is enclosed with this complaint, clearly documents the extent of forest clearing, the scale of construction activities, and the resulting environmental damage. Each photograph is authenticated with GPS coordinates and timestamps, providing irrefutable evidence of the violations taking place.
  
13. That given the serious nature of these violations and the ongoing irreversible damage to the forest ecosystem, we urge your immediate intervention in this matter. We specifically request the issuance of an immediate stop-work order to halt all construction activities, following the precedent set by the Supreme Court in **M.C. Mehta vs. Union of India & Ors. (1996)**, where the Court affirmed its power to issue immediate injunctive relief to prevent environmental damage and held that "once the activity carried on is hazardous or inherently dangerous, the person carrying on such activity is liable to make good the loss caused to any other person by his activity irrespective of the fact whether he took reasonable care while carrying on his activity." Further, in **Tarun Bharat Sangh, Alwar vs. Union of India (1993)**, the Court ordered an immediate cessation of mining activities in protected forest areas, establishing that illegal activities in forest areas must be halted pending proper investigation. We therefore request an immediate site inspection

by forest department officials to assess the environmental damage. This should be accompanied by appropriate action against the responsible officials and the implementation of necessary restoration measures, in accordance with the "polluter pays principle" as established in **Indian Council for Enviro-Legal Action vs. Union of India (1996)**.

14. That is particularly concerning to note that Donyi-Polo Airport is already very well connected from Naharlagun Railway Station through existing routes, namely the Rajagarh Road via Banderdewa and through NH15 via Itanagar. These established routes provide adequate connectivity between these key transportation hubs, making the construction of an additional road through protected forest land unnecessary and unjustifiable. Such deliberate action by the PWD to construct a new road that destructively impacts the biodiversity of the reserve forest land is condemnable, especially when viable alternatives already exist. This raises serious questions about the project's necessity and suggests a concerning disregard for environmental protection in favor of redundant infrastructure development.

15. Furthermore, if this unauthorized road construction is allowed to continue through the heart of the notified Drupang Reserve Forest, it will inevitably lead to an increase in human presence and activities in this protected area. Of particular concern is that such infrastructure typically serves as a gateway for further encroachment, potentially resulting in massive grabbing of forest land. This is especially alarming considering that parts of this notified forest are already under encroachment in various locations. The new road would not only cause immediate ecological damage but would create a permanent corridor facilitating further degradation through settlement expansion, resource extraction,

and illegal occupation of forest land. These secondary impacts often exceed the direct environmental damage of the initial construction. This pattern of road-facilitated encroachment has been documented in numerous protected forests across the region and represents yet another reason why this project should be immediately halted and proper legal procedures followed. This point strengthens the argument about using the existing alternative routes **(Rajagarh Road and NH15) that already provide connectivity between Donyi-Polo Airport and Naharlagun Railway Station without cutting through sensitive forest areas.**

16. Looking forward, we recommend that any future development in this area should follow proper procedures, including obtaining forest clearance, conducting Environmental Impact Assessment studies, carrying out wildlife impact studies, and preparing comprehensive compensatory afforestation and soil conservation plans. Alternative routes that minimize impact on protected forest areas should also be seriously considered.
  
17. That I wish to emphasize that this complaint should not be construed as opposition to development projects in our state. As citizens, we fully support the government's initiatives for infrastructure development and regional connectivity. However, such development must be carried out sustainably and in accordance with established environmental laws and regulations. The Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act, 2023, and related environmental legislation provide clear frameworks for executing development projects while preserving our critical forest resources. The Act established the requirement that Central Government approval must be obtained before forest land is diverted for non-forest purposes, creating a transparent and regulated process for

considering development needs alongside conservation imperatives. This balanced approach allows for sustainable development while ensuring proper environmental safeguards are maintained. This principle has been strongly upheld by the Supreme Court in **Narmada Bachao Andolan vs. Union of India (2000)**, where the Court observed that "sustainable development means what type or extent of development can take place, which can be sustained by nature/ecology with or without mitigation." More recently, in **Natural Resources Defence Council vs. Union of India (2018)**, the Court held that "the principle of sustainable development requires a symbiotic balance between the developmental needs and environmental imperatives" and that "the protective principle can only be enforced in strict compliance with the statutory provisions." By following these established procedures, including proper environmental impact assessments, compensatory afforestation, and wildlife protection measures, we can achieve both development goals and environmental conservation. The current situation could have been entirely avoided had the proper legal channels been followed by the project's inception.

18. That I remain available for any clarifications or additional information that may be required. Given the ongoing nature of the damage, I request your urgent attention and prompt action in this matter.

Yours sincerely,



**S.D LODA**, Advocate

Gauhati High Court, Itanagar Permanent Bench, Yupia  
Arunachal Pradesh -- 791110  
Phone: +91-7085972500  
Email: [sdloda@gmail.com]

Enclosures:

1. Photographic evidence with GPS coordinates



Naharlagun, Itanagar Capital Complex, 791110,  
Arunachal Pradesh, India

Latitude  
27.091998°

Longitude  
93.737627°

Local 11:53:02 AM  
GMT 06:23:02 AM

Altitude 289.7 meters  
Friday, 02/21/2025



**Naharlagun, Itanagar Capital Complex, 791110,  
Arunachal Pradesh, India**

Latitude  
**27.090280°**

Longitude  
**93.737530°**

Local 11:54:16 AM  
GMT 06:24:16 AM

Altitude 281.4 meters  
Friday, 02/21/2025



Naharlagun, Itanagar Capital Complex, 791110,  
Arunachal Pradesh, India

Latitude  
27.093354°

Longitude  
93.737346°

Local 11:52:19 AM  
GMT 06:22:19 AM

Altitude 287.6 meters  
Friday, 02/21/2025



Naharlagun, Itanagar Capital Complex, 791110,  
Arunachal Pradesh, India

Latitude  
27.093346°

Longitude  
93.737359°

Local 11:52:20 AM  
GMT 06:22:20 AM

Altitude 287.5 meters  
Friday, 02/21/2025



Naharlagun, Itanagar Capital Complex, 791110,  
Arunachal Pradesh, India

Latitude  
27.090258°

Local 11:54:23 AM  
GMT 06:24:23 AM

Longitude  
93.737546°

Altitude 288.4 meters  
Friday, 02/21/2025



Naharlagun, Itanagar Capital Complex, 791110,  
Arunachal Pradesh, India

Latitude  
27.086804°

Local 12:18:50 PM  
GMT 06:48:50 AM

Longitude  
93.741382°

Altitude 223.8 meters  
Friday, 02/21/2025



Naharlagun, Itanagar Capital Complex, 791110,  
Arunachal Pradesh, India

Latitude  
27.087108°

Local 12:16:29 PM  
GMT 06:46:29 AM

Longitude  
93.740414°

Altitude 219.7 meters  
Friday, 02/21/2025



Naharlagun, Itanagar Capital Complex, 791110,  
Arunachal Pradesh, India

Latitude  
27.090187°

Longitude  
93.737713°

Local 11:56:32 AM  
GMT 06:26:32 AM

Altitude 284.8 meters  
Friday, 02/21/2025

To

1. **The Secy. to Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh**
2. **Secretary, MoEF&CC Govt. India**
3. **The Chief Secretary, Government of Arunachal Pradesh**
4. **The PCCF & (HoFF), Deptt, of EF&CC Arunachal Pradesh**

**Sub: Systematic Environmental Destruction in Drupang Reserve Forest, Papumpare District (Successive & Reminder Letter).**

**Your Excellencies and Honourable Officials,**

we, the undersigned citizens, environmental activists, and indigenous community representatives of Arunachal Pradesh, approach your esteemed offices with profound concern regarding the **catastrophic environmental crisis** unfolding in Drupang Reserve Forest, Papumpare District.

**A. LEGAL STATUS AND CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTION OF DRUPANG RESERVE FOREST:**

It is crucial to emphasize that Drupang Reserve Forest (originally notified as "Drupong Reserved Forest") was legally constituted as a Reserved Forest through Government Notification No. FOR.233/78 dated 16th August 1978, published in The Arunachal Pradesh Extraordinary Gazette on July 28, 1979. This notification, issued under Section 17 of The North-East Frontier Agency (Construction of references to State Government) Adaptation 1965, legally declared 420.75 Sq. Km. of forest area as Reserved Forest with clearly demarcated boundaries. The notification specifically excluded certain village areas and granted limited traditional rights to indigenous inhabitants, while maintaining the core forest area under absolute legal protection. The ongoing systematic destruction therefore constitutes direct violation of this 47-year-old legal notification and represents flagrant disregard for constitutionally mandated forest protection.

This representation follows our previous communications and legal notices spanning over a decade (2024-2025), during which systematic forest

destruction has continued unabated despite multiple interventions, RTI applications, and federal government directions.

**B. REFERENCE TO PREVIOUS CORRESPONDENCE: -**

Our earlier communications, including legal notices mailed dated 24.01.2025 to PCCF via [pccfnsecy-arn@nic.in](mailto:pccfnsecy-arn@nic.in) and complaint letter submitted dated 18.01.2025, and urgent representations mailed to Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh and Secretary, MoEF, Govt of India dated 08.01.2025 via mail [-governor.sec@yaho.com](mailto:-governor.sec@yaho.com), [Secy-moef@nic.in](mailto:Secy-moef@nic.in) have respectively documented the ongoing environmental crisis in Drupang Reserve Forest.

Despite these formal complaints and various directive and meeting directing state authorities to take appropriate action, the destruction has not stopped.

This representation addresses the complete failure of all previous interventions and demands immediate multi-level constitutional and administrative action.

**C. CRITICAL NEW DEVELOPMENT: -**

**A fresh complaint dated March 18, 2025, addressed to PCCF(HoFF) that the Public Works Department (PWD), Naharlagun Division, is conducting unauthorized construction of a state highway connecting Donyi-Polo Airport to Railway Station, Naharlagun directly through the heart of Drupang Reserve Forest.**

This unprecedented violation involves a state government agency deliberately destroying protected forest without mandatory environmental clearances. GPS-documented evidence shows extensive illegal construction at coordinates 27.079839°N to 27.098262°N latitude and 93.730762°E to 93.752646°E longitude, creating 15--20-meter vertical hill cuts and destroying critical elephant migration corridors.

**Most alarmingly, this highway construction is completely unnecessary as adequate connectivity already exists via existing routes including NH 415 from Naharlagun to Donyi Polo Airport Via Banderdewa-**

**Rajgarh Route and from Naharlagun to Donyi Polo Airport via Itanagar, making this forest destruction entirely unjustifiable.**

**D. WIDESPREAD PRIVATE ENCROACHMENT: -**  
**(THE LAND MAFIA OPERATIONS)**

**Beyond government-led destruction, systematic encroachment by private individuals and groups---operating as organized land mafia--- has created an extensive network of unauthorized roads throughout Drupang Reserve Forest. These illegal road constructions serve as the primary mechanism for forest land grabbing, with private encroachers cutting unauthorized access routes deep into protected forest areas to facilitate permanent occupation and commercial exploitation.**

**Multiple unauthorized roads have been constructed by private individuals and groups at various locations within the reserve forest, creating a spider web of illegal access that enables systematic land grabbing operations. These private road constructions are strategically planned to bypass official checkpoints and forest monitoring systems, allowing encroachers to transport heavy machinery, construction materials, and establish permanent illegal settlements within the protected forest boundaries.**

**The land mafia operates with impunity, constructing these unauthorized roads as the first step in a systematic process: road construction → machinery transport → forest clearing → illegal construction → permanent encroachment. This organized criminal enterprise has effectively carved up the protected forest into parcels for illegal occupation, with each unauthorized road representing a permanent scar on the forest landscape and a gateway for further environmental destruction. Deliberate Forest Fire is also reported.**

**E. . BANDERDEWA FOREST DIVISION'S COMPLETE**  
**DERELICTION OF DUTY AND ALLEGED**  
**COLLUSION: -**

**The Banderdewa Forest Division, which has direct administrative jurisdiction over Drupang Reserve Forest, has demonstrated zero on-ground action against encroachers and violators despite overwhelming**

**evidence of systematic forest destruction.** This division's complete failure to discharge its fundamental constitutional and statutory duties represents the most damaging aspect of the entire environmental crisis.

**Most alarmingly, credible reports indicate that officials within the Banderdewa Forest Division engage in active collusion with encroachers and violators by deliberately sharing confidential departmental information that enables illegal activities to continue undetected.** This includes advance information about planned inspections, internal departmental strategies, and sensitive operational details that allow organized land mafia to evade detection and continue their destructive operations with complete impunity.

**The systematic leakage of confidential information has rendered all forest protection measures completely ineffective, as encroachers receive advance warning of any enforcement activities and adjust their operations accordingly.** This institutional corruption within the Banderdewa Forest Division has transformed what should be the primary protective agency into an active facilitator of environmental destruction.

**Given the complete breakdown of administrative integrity and the documented evidence of institutional collusion with criminal elements, we demand that the complete reshuffle of all officials within the Banderdewa Forest Division represents the only viable remedial measure to address the crisis at hand.** No meaningful forest protection can be achieved while the current compromised administrative structure remains in place, as any enforcement efforts will be systematically undermined by insider information sharing with violators.

**F. FOREST DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AS INDIRECT  
OR DIRECT ENCROACHERS: -**

**In a shocking revelation through RTI wherein show cause notice was served upon one official posted at forest department, Banderdewa vide no BNR /12/08/83 dated 08/12/2017 that exposes tips of iceberg, there**

**may be many more official and which is sufficient to expose the deepest level of institutional corruption, credible evidence indicates that some officials from the Department of Environment and Forest are themselves among the indirect encroachers of forest land in the name of kits and kin within Drupang Reserve Forest. This unprecedented conflict of interest represents the most damaging betrayal of public trust and constitutional duty, where the very individuals entrusted with forest protection have become active participants in its systematic destruction.**

**These forest department officials, who have sworn to protect and preserve the reserved forest under their constitutional and statutory mandate, have instead exploited their privileged positions, insider knowledge, and administrative access to illegally occupy and commercially exploit the same forest lands they are duty-bound to safeguard.** Their intimate knowledge of departmental procedures, monitoring gaps, and enforcement weaknesses has enabled them to conduct sophisticated encroachment operations while simultaneously ensuring that no action is taken against their own illegal activities.

**The presence of forest officials among the encroachers creates a catastrophic scenario where the protectors have become the destroyers, making any internal departmental action completely ineffective and compromised.** These officials use their administrative positions to provide cover for their own illegal activities while simultaneously facilitating and protecting other encroachers through deliberate administrative inaction and information sharing.

**This institutional betrayal at the highest level explains the complete failure of all forest protection measures and the systematic undermining of every enforcement effort over the past decade.** No forest protection initiative can succeed when the officials responsible for implementation are themselves the primary violators, creating an impossible situation where the department is expected to act against its own personnel.

**We demand immediate identification, suspension, and prosecution of all forest department officials involved in illegal encroachment, along with comprehensive investigation into their property holdings within**

**Drupang Reserve Forest.** Only through complete removal of these compromised officials and criminal prosecution can any credible forest protection effort be initiated.

**G. CONSTITUTIONAL BREACH AND SYSTEMATIC FAILURES:**

**The ongoing crisis represents a complete betrayal of Article 48A of the Constitution, which mandates state protection of environment and forests.** Despite over a decade of documented complaints, we witness systematic failure across all levels:

**Forest Department's Documented Negligence:** Official RTI responses reveal that out of 351 confirmed illegal encroachment cases, only 48 cases (13.7%) have been addressed. Zero enforcement actions have been taken against heavy machinery operating illegally, and multiple eviction notices issued between 2016-2023 remain unimplemented.

**Critical Infrastructure Deficits:** The entire forest division operates with only 88 staff, mere 11 checkpoints, complete absence of modern surveillance equipment, and zero penalties imposed on violators despite documented evidence.

**Federal Intervention Ignored:** Despite the Union Government's directive dated February 24, 2025, requiring state authorities to examine the matter and take necessary action, destruction has escalated with government agencies now leading the violations.

**H. IMMINENT THREATS TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND INFRASTRUCTURE: -**

The ongoing destruction poses immediate dangers to critical infrastructure and public safety:

**Infrastructure Vulnerability: Holongi Airport** connectivity faces serious risk due to siltation and unstable slopes created by illegal cutting. **The**

**Chimpu-Holongi National Highway-** 415 stability is compromised by 20-30-meter unstable cut slopes creating imminent landslide risks.

**Environmental Hazards:** Water source contamination affects downstream communities, while destruction of perennial springs threatens regional water security. Critical wildlife corridors including elephant migration routes are being permanently fragmented.

**Community Impact:** Indigenous communities face loss of traditional livelihoods, access to medicinal plants, and sacred cultural heritage sites, violating rights recognized under the Forest Rights Act, 2006.

#### **I. UNPRECEDENTED SCALE OF ECOLOGICAL DESTRUCTION:**

**Drupang Reserve Forest serves as a crucial natural water security system, biodiversity sanctuary, community lifeline, and climate change mitigation resource.** The forest functions as a critical catchment area for major river systems, provides groundwater recharge, supports endangered species breeding, and sequesters thousands of tons of carbon annually.

**The systematic destruction threatens irreversible loss of this ecological treasure, potentially leading to complete environmental collapse with permanent damage to watershed functions, species extinction, and acceleration of climate change impacts at the regional level.**

#### **J. URGENT DEMANDS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION: -**

**Given the complete failure of existing administrative mechanisms and the escalation of destruction despite federal intervention, we demand immediate action from your respective offices:**

1. **To His Excellency the Governor (Under Article 371H):**
  - o **Immediate invocation of constitutional powers to halt all illegal activities.**

- **Emergency deployment of special forces to secure the protected area.**
- **Direct Governor's intervention bypassing failed state machinery.**
- **Constitutional protection of tribal and environmental rights.**

**2. To the Secretary MoEF:**

- **Direct central monitoring of Arunachal Pradesh's forest destruction.**
- **Emergency withdrawal of state forest management authority due to systematic failure.**
- **Central investigation into decade-long governance breakdown.**
- **Immediate protection under central environmental laws.**

**3. To the Chief Secretary:**

- **Inter-departmental coordination to stop PWD illegal highway construction.**
- **Administrative inquiry into complete governance failure.**
- **Emergency measures across all government agencies.**
- **Coordinated response to prevent further destruction.**

**4. To the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (HoFF):**

- **Emergency stop-work orders for all illegal activities**
- **Immediate prosecution of all violators including government agencies**
- **Deployment of forest protection forces**
- **Emergency restoration measures for damaged areas**
- **Administrative inquiry into complete failure to protect reserve forest.**
- **Complete administrative reshuffle of Banderdewa Forest Division to eliminate institutional collusion with violators.**
- **Immediate identification, suspension, and prosecution of all forest department officials involved in illegal encroachment within Drupang Reserve Forest.**

**K. SPECIFIC PRAYER**

**We specifically pray for immediate inspection of the poor and dreaded condition of infrastructure and manpower across various Range Offices and Forest Beats within Drupang Reserve Forest.** The systematic destruction of this protected forest is directly linked to the appalling state of forest department infrastructure and the severe shortage of personnel required for effective forest protection.

**Current field observations reveal shocking inadequacies in forest department operational capacity:**

**Range Office Infrastructure Crisis:** Multiple Range Offices within Drupang Reserve Forest operate from dilapidated buildings lacking basic facilities including proper communication systems, vehicles for patrolling, modern surveillance equipment, and even basic office infrastructure. Many Range Offices lack reliable electricity, internet connectivity, and adequate storage for essential forest protection equipment.

**Forest Beat Station Collapse:** Forest Beat stations, which serve as the frontline defence against encroachment, exist in deplorable conditions with most operating from temporary structures or completely abandoned facilities. Beat Officers are forced to operate without proper accommodation, communication equipment, or transportation facilities, making effective forest monitoring virtually impossible.

**Critical Manpower Shortage:** Our investigation reveals that vast areas of Drupang Reserve Forest remain completely unmonitored due to severe staff shortage. Multiple forest beats are either unstaffed or operated by single personnel covering impossibly large areas without adequate support or resources.

**Equipment and Resource Deficiency:** Forest personnel lack basic protective equipment, modern surveillance tools, GPS devices for accurate monitoring, vehicles for regular patrolling, and communication systems for coordinating anti-encroachment operations. This equipment shortage renders forest protection efforts completely ineffective against organized land mafia operations.

**Impact on Forest Protection:** The poor infrastructure and manpower crisis has created a situation where forest officials are physically unable to

prevent unauthorized activities even when they detect violations. The organized encroachers and land mafia exploit these operational weaknesses to conduct large-scale forest destruction with impunity.

**We urgently request comprehensive inspection and immediate remedial action to upgrade forest department infrastructure and augment manpower to levels adequate for protecting this critical ecological resource.** Without addressing these fundamental operational deficiencies, no amount of policy intervention can prevent the ongoing environmental catastrophe in Drupang Reserve Forest.

#### L. CONSEQUENCES OF CONTINUED INACTION

**Failure to act will result in:**

**Complete Environmental Collapse:** Irreversible destruction of critical ecological corridors, permanent loss of biodiversity, and climate change acceleration.

**Public Safety Crisis:** Infrastructure collapse, increased natural disasters, water security threats, and health hazards from environmental contamination.

**Constitutional Crisis:** Total loss of public faith in governance, requiring potential President's Rule intervention, international environmental criticism, and legal challenges before National Green Tribunal and Supreme Court.

#### M. CONCLUSION

**Your Excellencies, this crisis transcends environmental concerns---it represents a complete constitutional and administrative failure requiring immediate intervention at multiple governance levels.** The people of Arunachal Pradesh have exhausted all available legal and administrative channels over the past decade and now look to your offices as the final constitutional authorities to protect their environmental heritage.

**The escalation of destruction despite federal intervention and the involvement of government agencies as primary violators demands unprecedented, coordinated action. I remain hopeful that your respective offices will exercise the constitutional, administrative, and legal powers vested in you to address this environmental and governance crisis.**

**Time is running out. The Drupang Reserve Forest and the constitutional faith of Arunachal Pradesh's citizens both hang in the balance.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**S.D Loda**

Environmental Activists,  
E-Sector, Itanagar-791111

**Nabam Simon,**

Concern indigenous citizen  
C-Sector, Itanagar-791111

**Date: May 26, 2025**

**Enclosure:**

- Documentation of previous legal notices and complaints

**NATIONAL FOREST POLICY**

**1988**

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
NEW DELHI**

**No. 3-1/86-FP**  
**Ministry of Environment and Forests**  
**(Department of Environment, Forests & Wildlife)**

**Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex,**  
**Lodi Road, New Delhi - 110003.**

**Dated the 7th December, 1988.**

**RESOLUTION**

**National Forest Policy, 1988**

**1. PREAMBLE**

1.1. In Resolution No.13/52/F, dated the 12th May, 1952, the Government of India in the erstwhile Ministry of Food and Agriculture enunciated a Forest Policy to be followed in the management of State Forests in the country. However, over the years,\* forests in the country have suffered serious depletion. This is attributable to relentless pressures arising from ever-increasing demand for fuel-wood, fodder and timber; inadequacy of protection measures; diversion of forest lands to non-forest uses without ensuring compensatory afforestation and essential environmental safeguards; and the tendency to look upon forests as revenue earning resource. The need to review the situation and to evolve, for the future, a new strategy of forest conservation has become imperative. Conservation includes preservation, maintenance, sustainable utilisation, restoration, and enhancement of the natural environment. It has thus become necessary to review and revise the National Forest Policy.

**2. BASIC OBJECTIVES**

2.1 The basic objectives that should govern the National Forest Policy - are the following:

- Maintenance of environmental stability through preservation and, where necessary, restoration of the ecological balance that has been adversely disturbed by serious depletion of the forests of the country.
- Conserving the natural heritage of the country by preserving the remaining natural forests with the vast variety of flora and fauna, which represent the remarkable biological diversity and genetic resources of the country.
- Checking soil erosion and denudation in the catchment areas of rivers, lakes, reservoirs in the "interest of soil and water conservation, for mitigating floods and droughts and for the retardation of siltation of reservoirs.
- Checking the extension of sand-dunes in the desert areas of Rajasthan and along the coastal tracts.

- Increasing substantially the forest/tree cover in the country through massive afforestation and social forestry programmes, especially on all denuded, degraded and unproductive lands.
- Meeting the requirements of fuel-wood, fodder, minor forest produce and small timber of the rural and tribal populations.
- Increasing the productivity of forests to meet essential national needs.
- Encouraging efficient utilisation of forest produce and maximising substitution of wood.
- Creating a massive people's movement with the involvement of women, for achieving these objectives and to minimise pressure on existing forests.

2.2 The principal aim of Forest Policy must be to ensure environmental stability and maintenance of ecological balance including atmospheric equilibrium which are vital for sustenance of all lifeforms, human, animal and plant. The derivation of direct economic benefit must be subordinated to this principal aim.

### **3. ESSENTIALS OF FOREST MANAGEMENT**

3.1 Existing forests and forest lands should be fully protected and -their productivity improved. Forest and vegetal cover should be increased rapidly on hill slopes, in catchment areas of rivers, lakes and reservoirs and ocean shores and, on semi-arid, and and desert tracts.

3.2 Diversion of good and productive agricultural lands to forestry should be discouraged in view of the need for increased food production.

3.3 For the conservation of total biological diversity, the network of national parks, sanctuaries, biosphere reserves and other protected areas should be strengthened and extended adequately.

3.4 Provision of sufficient fodder, fuel and pasture, specially in areas adjoining forest, is necessary in order to prevent depletion of forests beyond the sustainable limit. Since fuelwood continues to be the predominant source of energy in rural areas, the programme of afforestation should be intensified with special emphasis on augmenting fuelwood production to meet the requirement of the rural people.

3.5 Minor forest produce provides sustenance to tribal population and to other communities residing in and around the forests. Such produce should be protected, improved and their production enhanced with due regard to generation of employment and income.

### **4. STRATEGY**

#### **4.1 Area under Forests**

The national goal should be to have a minimum of one-third of the total land area of the country under forest or tree cover. In the hills and in mountainous regions, the aim should be to maintain two-third of the area under such cover in order to prevent erosion and land degradation and to ensure the stability of the fragile eco-system.

#### **4.2 Afforestation, Social Forestry & Farm Forestry**

4.2.1 A massive need-based and time bound programme of afforestation and tree planting, with particular emphasis on fuelwood and fodder development, on all degraded and denuded lands in the country, whether forest or non-forest land, is a national imperative.

4.2.2 It is necessary to encourage the planting of trees alongside of roads, railway lines, rivers and streams and canals, and on other unutilised lands under State/corporate, institutional\_ or private ownership. Green belts should be raised in urban/industrial areas as well as in arid tracts. Such a programme will help to check erosion and desertification as well as improve the microclimate.

4.2.3 Village and community lands, including those on foreshores and environs of tanks, not required for other productive uses, should be taken up for the development of tree crops and fodder resources. Technical assistance and other inputs necessary for initiating such programmes should be provided by the Government. The revenues generated through such programmes should belong to the panchayats where the lands are vested in them; in all other cases, such revenues should be shared with the local communities in order to provide an incentive to them. The vesting, in individuals, particularly from the weaker sections (such as landless labour, small and marginal farmers, scheduled castes, tribals, women) of certain ownership rights over trees, could be considered, subject to appropriate regulations; beneficiaries would be entitled to usufruct and would in turn be responsible for their security and maintenance.

4.2.4 Land laws should be so modified wherever necessary so as to facilitate and motivate individuals and institutions to undertake tree-farming and grow fodder plants, grasses and legumes on their own land. Wherever degraded lands should be made available for this purpose either on lease or on the basis of a tree-patta scheme. Such leasing of the land should be subject to the land grant rules and land ceiling laws. Steps necessary to encourage them to do so must be taken. Appropriate regulations should govern the felling of trees on private holding.

#### **4.3 Management of State Forests**

4.3.1 Schemes and projects which interfere with forests that clothe steep slopes, catchments of rivers, lakes, and reservoirs, geologically unstable terrain and such other ecologically sensitive areas should be severely restricted. Tropical rain/moist forests, particularly in areas like Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, should be totally safeguarded.

4.3.2 No forest should be permitted to be worked without - the Government having approved the management plan, which should be in a prescribed format and in keeping with the National Forest Policy. The Central Government should issue necessary guidelines to the State Governments in this regard and monitor compliance.

4.3.3 In order to meet the growing needs for essential goods and services which the forests provide, it is necessary to enhance forest cover and productivity of the forests through the application of scientific and technical inputs. Production forestry programmes, while aiming at enhancing the forest cover in the country, and meeting national needs, should also be oriented to narrowing, by the turn of the century, the increasing gap between demand and supply of fuelwood. No such programme, however, should entail clear-felling of adequately stocked natural forests. Nor should exotic species be introduced, through public or private sources, unless long-term scientific trials undertaken by specialists in ecology, forestry and agriculture have established that they are suitable and have no adverse impact on native vegetation and environment.

#### **4.3.4 Rights and Concessions**

4.3.4.1 The rights and concessions, including grazing, should always remain related to the carrying capacity of forests. The capacity itself should be optimised by increased investment, silvicultural research and development of the area. Stall-feeding of cattle should be encouraged'. The requirements of the community, which cannot be met by the rights and concessions so determined, should be met by development of social forestry outside the reserved forests.

4.3.4.2 The holders of customary rights and concessions in forest areas should be motivated to identify themselves with the protection and development of forests from which they derive benefits. The rights and concessions from forests should primarily be for the bonafide use of the communities living within and around forest areas, specially the tribals.

4.3.4.3 The life of tribals and other poor living within and near forests revolves around forests. The rights and concessions enjoyed by them should be fully protected. Their domestic requirements of fuelwood, fodder, minor forest produce and construction timber should be the first charge on forest produce. These and substitute materials should be made available through conveniently located depots at reasonable prices.

4.3.4.4 Similar consideration should be given to scheduled castes and other poor living near forests. However, the area, which such consideration should cover, would be determined by the carrying capacity of the forests.

4.3.5 Wood is in short supply. The long-term solution for meeting the existing gap lies in increasing the productivity of forests, but to relieve the existing pressure on forests for the demands of railway sleepers, construction industry (particularly in the public-sector), furniture and panelling, mine-pit props, paper and paper board etc. substitution of wood needs to be taken recourse to. Similarly, on the front of domestic energy, fuelwood needs to be substituted as far as practicable with alternate sources

like bio-gas, LPG and solar energy. Fuel-efficient "Chulhas" as a measure of conservation of fuelwood need to be popularised in rural areas.

#### **4.4 Diversion of Forest Lands for Non-forest purposes**

4.4.1 Forest land or land with tree cover should not be treated merely as a resource readily available to be utilised for various projects and programmes, but as a national asset which requires to be properly safeguarded for providing sustained benefits to the entire community. Diversion of forest land for any non-forest purpose should be subject to the most careful examinations by specialists from the standpoint of social and environmental costs and benefits. Construction of dams and reservoirs, mining and industrial development and expansion of agriculture should be consistent with the needs for conservation of trees and forests. Projects which involve such diversion should at least provide in their investment budget, funds for regeneration/compensatory afforestation.

4.4.2 Beneficiaries who are allowed mining and quarrying in forest land and in land covered by trees should be required to repair and re-vegetate the area in accordance with established forestry practices. No mining lease should be granted to any party, private or public, without a proper mine management plan appraised from the environmental angle and enforced by adequate machinery.

#### **4.5 Wildlife Conservation**

Forest Management should take special care of the needs of wildlife conservation, and forest management plans should include prescriptions for this purpose. It is specially essential to provide for "corridors" linking the protected areas in order to maintain genetic continuity between artificially separated sub-sections of migrant wildlife.

#### **4.6 Tribal People and Forests**

Having regard to the symbiotic relationship between the tribal people and forests, a primary task of all agencies responsible for forest management, including the forest development corporations should be to associate the tribal people closely in the protection, regeneration and development of forests as well as to provide gainful employment to people living in and around the forest. While safeguarding the customary rights and interests of such people, forestry programmes should pay special attention to the following:

- One of the major causes for degradation of forest is illegal cutting and removal by contractors and their labour. In order to put an end to this practice, contractors should be replaced by institutions such as tribal cooperatives, labour cooperatives, government corporations, etc. as early as possible;
- Protection, regeneration and optimum collection of minor forest produce along with institutional arrangements for the marketing of such produce;

- Development of forest villages on par with revenue villages;
- Family oriented schemes for improving the status of the tribal beneficiaries; and

Undertaking integrated are a development programmes to meet the needs of the tribal, economy in and around the forest areas, including the provision of alternative sources of domestic energy on a subsidised basis, to reduce pressure on the existing forest areas.

#### **4.7 Shifting Cultivation**

Shifting cultivation is affecting the environment and productivity of land adversely. Alternative avenues of income, suitably harmonised with the right land use practices, should be devised to discourage shifting cultivation. Efforts should be made to contain such cultivation within the area already affected, by propagating improved agricultural practices. Area already damaged by such cultivation should be rehabilitated through social forestry and energy plantations.

#### **4.8 Damage to Forests from Encroachments, Fires and Grazing**

4.8.1 Encroachment on forest lands has been on the increase. This trend has to be arrested and effective action taken to prevent its continuance. There, should be no regularisation of existing encroachments.

4.8.2 The incidence of forest fires in the country is high. Standing trees and fodder are destroyed on a large scale and natural regeneration annihilated by such fires. Special precautions should be taken during the fire season. Improved and modern management practices should be adopted to deal with forest fires.

4.8.3 Grazing in forest areas should be regulated with the involvement of the community. Special conservation areas, young plantations and regeneration areas should be fully protected. Grazing and browsing in forest areas need to be controlled. Adequate grazing fees should be levied to discourage people in forest areas from maintaining large herds of non-essential livestock.

#### **4.9 Forest-based Industries**

The main considerations governing the establishment of forest-based industries and supply of raw material to them should be as follows:

- As far as possible, a forest-based industry should raise the raw material needed for meeting its own requirements, preferably by establishment of a direct relationship between the factory and the individuals who can grow the raw material by supporting the individuals with inputs including credit, constant technical advice and finally harvesting and transport services.

- No forest-based enterprise, except that at the village or cottage level, should be permitted in the future unless it has been first cleared after a careful scrutiny with regard to assured availability of raw material. In any case, the fuel, fodder and timber requirements of the local population should not be sacrificed for this purpose.
- Forest-based industries must not only provide employment to local people on priority but also involve them fully in raising trees and raw-material.
- Natural forests serve as a gene pool resource and help to maintain ecological balance. Such forests will not, therefore, be made available to industries for undertaking plantation and for any other activities.
- Farmers, particularly small and marginal farmers, would be encouraged to grow, on marginal/degraded lands available with them, wood species required for industries. These may also be grown along with fuel and fodder species on community lands not required for pasture purposes, and by Forest department/corporations on degraded forests, not earmarked for natural regeneration.
- The practice of supply of forest produce to industry at concessional prices should cease. Industry should be encouraged to use alternative raw materials. Import of wood and wood products should be liberalised.
- The above considerations will, however, be subject to the current policy relating to land ceiling and land-laws.

#### **4.10 Forest Extension**

Forest conservation programme cannot succeed without the willing support and cooperation of the people. It is essential, therefore, to inculcate in the people, a direct interest in forests, their development and conservation, and to make them conscious of the value of trees, wildlife and nature in general. This can be achieved through the involvement of educational institutions, right from the primary stage. Farmers and interested people should be provided opportunities through institutions like Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Trainers' Training Centres to learn agrisilvicultural and silvicultural techniques to ensure optimum use of their land and water resources. Short term extension courses and lectures should be organised in order to educate farmers. For this purpose, it is essential that suitable programmes are propagated through mass media, audio-visual aids and the extension machinery.

#### **4.11 Forestry Education**

Forestry should be recognised both as a scientific discipline as well as a profession. Agriculture universities and institutions, dedicated to the development of forestry education should formulate curricula and courses for imparting academic education and promoting postgraduate research and professional excellence, keeping in view the manpower needs of the country. Academic and professional qualifications - in

forestry should be kept in view for recruitment to the Indian Forest Service and the State Forest Service. Specialised and orientation courses for developing better management skills by inservice training need to be encouraged, taking into account the latest development in forestry and related disciplines.

#### **4.12 Forestry Research**

With the increasing recognition of the importance of forests for environmental health, energy and employment, emphasis must be laid on scientific forestry research, necessitating adequate strengthening of the research base as well as new priorities for action. Some broad priority areas of research and development needing special attention are:

- Increasing the productivity of wood and other forest produce per unit of area per unit time by the application of modern scientific and technological methods.
- Revegetation of barren/marginal/waste/mined lands and watershed areas.
- Effective conservation and management of existing forest resources (mainly natural forest eco-systems).
- Research related to social forestry for rural/ tribal development.
- Development of substitutes to replace wood and wood products.
- Research related to wildlife and management of national parks and sanctuaries.

#### **4.13 Personnel Management**

Government policies in personnel management for professional foresters and forest scientists should aim at enhancing their professional competence and status and attracting and retaining qualified - and motivated personnel, keeping in view particularly -the Arduous nature of duties they have to perform, often in remote and inhospitable places.

#### **4.14 Forest Survey and Data Base**

Inadequacy of data regarding forest resources is a matter of concern because this creates a false sense of complacency. Priority needs to be accorded to completing the survey of forest resources in the country on scientific lines and to updating information. For this purpose, periodical collection, collation and publication of reliable data on relevant aspects of forest management needs to be improved with recourse to modern technology and equipment.

#### **4.15 Legal Support and Infrastructure Development**

Appropriate legislation should be undertaken, supported by adequate infrastructure, at the Centre and State levels in order to implement the Policy effectively.

#### **4.16 Financial Support for Forestry**

The objectives of this revised Policy cannot be achieved without the investment of financial and other resources on a substantial scale. Such investment is indeed fully justified considering the contribution of forests in maintaining essential ecological processes and life support systems and in preserving genetic diversity. Forests should not be looked upon as a source of revenue. Forests are a renewable natural resource. They are a national asset to be protected and enhanced for the well-being of the people and the Nation.

**(K.P.Geethakrishnan)**  
*Secretary to the Government of India*

**IN THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
VAKALATNAMA**

S. D. Loda & Anr. Applicant(s)/Petitioner(s)

V E R S U S

State of Arunachal Pradesh & ors. Defendant(s)/Respondent(s)

KNOW ALL to whom these present shall come that I/We  
S. D. Loda & Anr.  
the above named Applicant do  
hereby appoint (herein after called the advocate/s) to be my/our Advocate in  
the above noted case authorized him :-

**Ritwick Dutta, Rahul Choudhary, Kaustav Dhar Advocates.  
N-73, Lower Ground Floor, Greater Kailash-I, New Delhi - 110048.**

To act, appear and plead in the above-noted case in this Court or in any other Court in which the same may be tried or heard and also in the appellate Court including High Court subject to payment of fees separately for each Court by me/ us. To sign, file verify and present pleadings, appeals cross objections or petitions for execution review, revision, withdrawal, compromise or other petitions or affidavits or other documents as may be deemed necessary or proper for the prosecution of the said case in all its stages.

To file and take back documents to admit and/or deny the documents of opposite party.

To withdraw or compromise the said case or submit to arbitration any differences or disputes that may arise touching or in any manner relating to the said case. To take execution proceedings. The deposit, draw and receive money, cheques, cash and grant receipts thereof and to do all other acts and things which may be necessary to be done for the progress and in the course of the prosecution of the said case. To appoint and instruct any other Legal Practitioner, authorizing him to exercise the power and authority hereby conferred upon the Advocate whenever he may think it to do so and to sign the Power of Attorney on our behalf.

And I/We the undersigned do hereby agree to ratify and confirm all acts done by the Advocate or his substitute in the matter as my/our own acts, as if done by me/us to all intents and purposes.

And I/We undertake that I / we or my /our duly authorized agent would appear in the Court on all hearings and will inform the Advocates for appearance when the case is called.

And I /we undersigned do hereby agree not to hold the advocate or his substitute responsible for the result of the said case. The adjournment costs whenever ordered by the Court shall be of the Advocate, which he shall receive and retain himself.

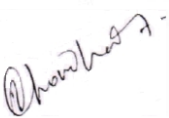
And I /we the undersigned do hereby agree that in the event of the whole or part of the fee agreed by me/us to be paid to the Advocate remaining unpaid he shall be entitled to withdraw from the prosecution of the said case until the same is paid up. The fee settled is only for the above case and above Court. I/We hereby agree that once the fee is paid. I /we will not be entitled for the refund of the same in any case whatsoever. If the case lasts for more than three years, the advocate shall be entitled for additional fee equivalent to half of the agreed fee for every addition three years or part thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I/We do hereunto set my /our hand to these presents the contents of which have been understood by me/us on this  
\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2025.

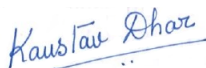
Accepted subject to the terms of fees.



Ritwick Dutta



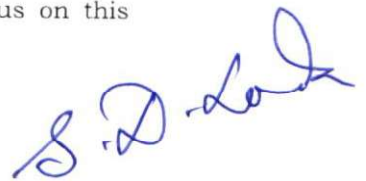
Advocate(s)  
Rahul Choudhary



Kaustav Dhar, Advocates



Client



Client



# Defects Note

The photographs at Page Nos. 65 form part of the RTI Reply dated 23.06.2025, while the contents at Page Nos. 71 and 73 are part of the RTI Reply dated 23.07.2025. It is respectfully submitted that the Applicants have only received these documents from the Department through RTI, and the same have been filed in their existing form, as coloured and/or legible copies were not provided.

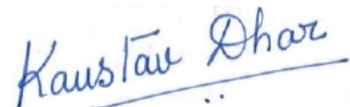
The Photographs at Page 126 to 133 form part of the correspondence of the Representation filed by the Applicants before several Respondents. The coloured copy of the same Images are annexed as ANNEXURE A/9.

Accordingly, the Applicants humbly request the Registry to kindly clear the defects on this ground.

However, should any further query arise, the Counsel for the Applicants shall duly address and satisfy the Hon'ble Bench at the time of hearing.



Rahul Choudhary



Kaustav Dhar  
Advocate