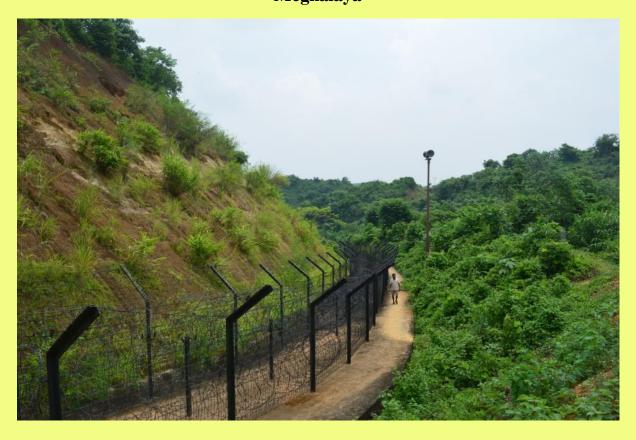
Social Impact Assessment Report on Land Acquisition For The Purpose Of Setting Up Border Outpost, Gopinathkilla, South West Garo Hills District, Meghalaya





Meghalaya Institute of Governance

Lumpyngngad Cottage, Bishop Cotton Road, Shillong- 793001 Phone No.: 0364-2505977, Email:migshillong@gmail.com About Meghalaya Institute of Governance

The Meghalaya Institute of Governance was created as one of the institutional support

mechanisms of the Meghalaya Basin Development Authority with a vision to explore, share

and promote good governance in Meghalaya by assisting the Government, private sector, the

voluntary sector and the communities in putting good governance into practice.

In exercise of powers conferred by the Sub Section (1) of Section 4 of the Right to

Fair Compensation and Transparency, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (No. 30 of

2013), the Government of Meghalaya had notified the Meghalaya Institute of Governance as

the State Social Impact Assessment Unit vide Notification No.RDA.67/2013/120 for carrying

out Social Impact Assessment Study on the land acquisition.

The Social Impact Assessment Team is as follows:

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Declaration

This final SIA and SIMP reports are based on the information given by the land owner, BSF officers as well as headmen from nearby villages. Project details were provided by the Deputy Commissioner's office, Ampati, South West Garo Hills.

This Social Impact Assessment and Social Impact Management Plan is the final SIA report after the Reconnaissance Survey, Focus Group Discussion, Key Informant Interview and Public Hearing.

Officer on Special Duty, Meghalaya Institute of Governance, Shillong.

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Abbreviations

BOP -Border Outpost BP **Boundary Pillar BSF Border Security Force** Common Property Resource CPR Focus Group Discussion FGD HHHouseholds Key Informant Interview KII Ministry of Home Affairs MHA -**Project Affected Family** PAF Social Impact Assessment SIA Terms of Reference TOR -NRM -Natural Resource Management MIG -Meghalaya Institute of Governance

Executive Summary

The Meghalaya Institute of Governance was assigned the task of conducting a Social Impact Assessment study on the proposed land acquisition at Gopinathkilla, South West Garo Hills District, Meghalaya for up gradation of the existing Border Outpost. The land to be acquired belongs to the Aking Nokma Shri Rubison Arengh, Shri Gasin Sangma, Shri C. Kerassa Marak, Shri Balsrang Arengh, Smt Sebanish Arengh and Shri Mathew Marak. It measures approximately 11412 square meters or 2.819 Acres.

The objective of the project is to upgrade the existing BOPs to a new Composite BOPs. These Composite BOPs would include better facilities for the BSF personnel stationed there. From the desk survey carried on by the SIA Unit, it was seen that the intention of the Ministry of Home Affairs was to upgrade the BOP to a Composite BOP¹, that is, the new BOP would have more facilities within it which would improve the standard of living for BSF personnel stationed at the borders.

From the preliminary site visit, the area may be classified as hilly terrain and arable land. There are no activities within the proposed project site, nor are there any settlements. There is already a Gopinathkilla BOP in the proposed project site which came into function just 6 to 7 months back approximately.

The SIA Unit of the Meghalaya Institute of Governance which had conducted site visits to the area proposed to be acquired had also conducted Key Informant Interviews (KII) with the land owner and BSF security personnel. The Nokma of Gopinathkilla was interviewed and interactions were also held with the BSF Assistant Commandant of the 26 Battalion at Gopinathkilla. The aim is to give the respondents an opportunity to express their

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¹ (Construction of 25 composite BOPs completed along India-Bangladesh border 2015)

views on the project and its impacts so that these can be taken into account while developing mitigation impacts.

The initial screening of project impacts showed no negligible impacts from the land acquisition. The Meghalaya Institute of Governance had conducted a Public Hearing on the 17th of November, 2017 on the Land Acquisition for Setting up of Proposed Border Outpost in Gopinathkilla at Nokma's residence at 11:00 am. The programme was chaired by Smt Florina Boro, MCS, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Revenue Dept., Ampati in the presence of Shri Daniel Ingty, Director NRM, Shri M. N. Arengh 26 BN BSF (SI), the Nokma of Gujangpara and the General Public.

Shri Rubison Arengh, Nokma of Gujangpara, mentioned that the land belongs to 6 individuals. The Nokma, Shri Rubison Arengh, Shri Gasin Sangma, Smt Kerassa Marak, Shri Balsrang Arengh, Smt Sebanish Arengh and Shri Mathew Marak. He further stated that with the existence of BOP at Gujangpara, so far there is no illegal activities like robbery, smuggling, cattle lifting etc. that took place in the village. He is happy about the project and shared his willingness by mentioning that they have no issues giving the land to the construction of the BOP. There were no objections to the proposed land acquisition for the of **BOP** conclusion Public Hearing construction the at the of the

Chapter 1: Introduction

The Meghalaya Institute of Governance was notified to conduct a Social Impact Assessment Study on land acquisition at Gopinathkilla, South West Garo Hills District for the purpose of establishing a Border Outpost there via Notification No. RDA.15/2017/29 dated Shillong, the 30th May, 2017. The objective of the study is to prepare a complete inventory of structures, affected families and people and to identify social impacts.

The Department of Border Management was created in the Ministry of Home Affairs in January, 2004 to pay focused attention to the issues relating to management of International land and coastal borders, strengthening of border policing and guarding, creation of borders and implementation of Border Areas Development Programme. As per the strategy to secure the border and also to create infrastructure in the border areas of the country, several initiatives have been undertaken by the Department of Border Management. The proper management of borders is vitally important for national security.²

Introduction to the Problem

India and Bangladesh shares a 4,156 km (2,582 mi) long international border which became the fifth-longest land border in the world, out of which Meghalaya shares 443 km (275 mi) along the border.³ The Indo-Bangladesh border is marked by a high degree of porosity and the checking of illegal cross border activities and illegal migration from Bangladesh into India is a major challenge. The area is densely populated and people cultivate their farms right up to the zero point.

² (Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, 2008-09)

³ (Parliament passes historic land accord bill to redraw border with Bangladesh-Times of India) Retrieved 17 November 2016.

The major challenges to border security in India are: cross-border terrorism, infiltration and ex-filtration of armed militants and insurgents, narcotics and arms smuggling; illegal migration, left wing extremism and separatist movements aided by external powers⁴. The maintenance of borders in the country is done by the Department of Border Management. This Department which is under the Ministry of Home Affairs, is responsible for looking after issues relating to management of the International land and coastal border, strengthening of border policing and guarding, creation of infrastructure such as roads, fencing and flood lighting of the border⁵.

Border Outposts (BOP) which are the main workstations of the BSF along the country's international borders are self-contained defence out-posts with a specified area of responsibility established⁶. The BOPs are meant to provide appropriate show of force to deter trans-border criminals, infiltrators and the hostile elements from indulging in the activities of intrusion/encroachment and border violations which are detrimental to the country's safety and security. There are 1011 Border Outposts along the Indo-Bangladesh border along with 82 Battalions⁷. As per official sources, the distance of one BOP from the next BOP on the Indo-Bangladesh border is more than that of one BOP to the next BOP on the Indo-Pakistan border. On the Indo-Pakistan border ,the distance between two BOPs is 4-5 km while that between two BOPs on the Indo-Bangladesh border is 15-20 km. In order to reduce the inter-BOP distance to 3.5 km, the Government of India had approved a proposal for the construction of additional 509 BOPs in 2009 which was revised to 422 BOPs in 2016⁸. Reducing the inter-BOP distance to 3.5 km is very crucial for the security of the country and to keep a tab on the activities going on at the border. At the same time, the population density on the Indo-Bangladesh border, according to 2004 figures is 181 people per sq. km in

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⁴ (Affairs 2017) p. 1

⁵ (Ministry of Home Affairs Annual Report 2016-17 2016) p.35

⁶ Ibid

⁷ (Affairs 2017) p. 2

⁸ (Ministry of Home Affairs Annual Report 2016-17 2016)

Meghalaya⁹. There is also the threat of increasing population pressures due to climate change and the new strata called "climate refugee."

To this, an on-going proposal has been put up to upgrade existing BOPs to "Composite BOPs". Of the 1901 BOPs being manned by the BSF in the country, 422 are Composite BOPs and the remaining lack basic elements required for a BOP to be functional¹⁰. A Composite BOP would have at least a *jawans* barrack, a kitchen, a dining hall, a garage, a generator room, a toilet block, an administrative block, a wireless room, a weapons room and six cemented bunkers to resist any attack and also medical facilities. This kind of BOP would provide better logistics support and better facilities to the BSF personnel which would help maintain better vigil in the border¹¹.



Figure 1The existing BOP at Gopinathkilla

⁹ (Jamwal 2004) ¹⁰ (Affairs 2017) p. 19

¹¹ (Construction of 25 composite BOPs completed along India-Bangladesh border 2015)

Close to the proposed Gopinathkilla BOP site there is the Gujangpara BOP whose area starts from Boundary Pillar (BP) no. 1090 onwards. However, it came into function just 6 to 7 months back approximately.

Objective of Project

To upgrade the existing Border Outpost at Gopinathkilla to a composite BOP.

Project Location

The site to be acquired for the project is in South West Garo Hills District and falls under the Betasing block. It is a remote site on the Indo-Bangladesh border. The project site for BOP at Gopinathkilla is approximately 6 kms from the BOP at Gujangpara and another 8 kms from BOP at Rithingpara.

Description of Project Site

The Indo-Bangladesh border maybe classified as hill, riverine or flat. The Meghalaya portion of the Indo-Bangladesh border may be classified into all three categories. However this particular site may be classified as a hilly and a flat border. The border here, unlike other stretches of the Indo-Bangladesh border in Meghalaya was fenced in 2016 in accordance to the international norms of fencing 150 yards from zero-point. The project site may be characterised as hilly terrain. It is arable land. It has mixed vegetation and shrub land. The road connecting, Gopinathkilla BOP to the Gujangpara BOP where the BSF Battalion is placed is a metalled road and the condition though fairly good can be further improved.

The area is uninhabited and the closest villages to the project site are agricultural land, as such the question of relocation and resettlement does not arise. All these villages are at a distance of 1 km to 3 km to the Gopinathkilla BOP. From the observations, it was found that the land to be acquired is a sloping hill and has Cashew nut and Sal tree plantations and intercropping is practiced with yam, brinjal, chilly, ginger being seen on the site.

The proposed project site is on the Indo-Bangladesh border which is hilly in nature and has no settlement on it.

Ownership of Land

The land for acquisition belongs to the A'king Nokma Shri Rubison Arengh, Shri Gasin Sangma, Shri C. Kerassa Marak, Shri Balsrang Arengh, Smt Sebanish Arengh and Shri Mathew Marak. It measures approximately 11412 square meters or 2.819 Acres.

Need for the Project

As part of Border Management, the objective of the BOP is to secure the country's border against interests hostile to the country and putting in place the systems that are able to interdict such elements.

Chapter 2: Research Methodology

The research strategy that the SIA-Unit used is a descriptive method. This method describes the specific behaviour or facts concerning the nature of the situation. It involves the gathering of data that describe the events; organisation, tabulation, depiction and description of the data collected.

Primary Data

The research team held interviews with the Nokma of Gopinathkilla and the BSF officers present at Gopinathkilla. As the site to be acquired is uninhabited, there was no interview conducted with other persons. The methods used were both structured and unstructured and designed based on the likely impact on the project area. During the field research, the following methods were used to gather information:

Reconnaissance Field Survey

A preliminary site visit was first carried out. It involved identifying the likely significant impacts of the project which needs to be investigated and also defining the approach that will be taken for their assessments to complete the initial scope of work. The site to be acquired is to upgrade the existing BOP at Gopinathkilla. The Reconnaissance Survey helped develop the Terms of Reference (TOR) for this SIA study.

Stakeholder Consultation

Good practice requires active consultation with relevant affected communities and other interested and affected parties. However, as the project site is uninhabited and the land is unused there was no consultation



Figure 2 Focus Group Discussion.

held with village members. Key

Informant Interviews (KII) was held however with the land owner and BSF security personnel. The Nokma of Gopinathkilla, Gujangpara were interviewed and interactions were held with the BSF Assistant Commandant of the 26 Battalion at Gopinathkilla. The aim is to give the respondents an opportunity to express their views on the project and its impacts so that these can be taken into account while developing mitigation impacts.

Secondary Data

The research team first reviewed and researched related literature to understand the requirements and needs of the project area. Based on the review of secondary data, the team was able to get an insight on the background of the project and this has allowed for group identification and formulation of questionnaire design. Secondary data such as project details, type of investment, maps and details of land owners were obtained from the Deputy Commissioner's Office, Ampati, South West Garo Hills.

Public Hearing

Public Hearing to ensure free and prior information was conducted on the 17th of November, 2017 at the residence of the Nokma Gopinathkilla village, South West Garo Hills District, Meghalaya.

Data Processing and Analysis

Data collected during the field visits have been systematically arranged and qualitatively interpreted.

Chapter 3: Stakeholder Consultation

Interviews were conducted with some stakeholders related to the project. The following information was gathered thereafter:

BSF Asst. Commandant, 26 Battalion, Gopinathkilla

As per the conversation with the BSF Asst. Commandant of the 26 Battalion stationed at Gopinathkilla, the following information was received from him:

- There has been reduction in the trans-border crimes detected due to the recent fencing
 of the Border. Prior to the fencing there were high instances of criminal activities like
 theft, cattle smuggling and illegal border crossing.
- Presently the area to cover by the stationed Battalion is large and creates inefficiency in patrolling and maintaining dominance.
- It is necessary to establish BOPs
 - o To create a sense of security among the people.
 - o To establish dominance in the area.
 - o To check border crimes.
 - o To get intelligence on the enemies.
- There won't be negative social impacts from the land acquisition.

Shri Rubison Arengh, Nokma, Gopinathkilla, South West Garo Hills District.

A Key Informant Interview was conducted through a semi structured interview scheduled with the Nokma of Gopinathkilla, Gujangpara on the 15th of September 2017. The Nokma, Shri Rubison Arengh stated that the land for acquisition belongs to **6 individuals.** It measures approximately 11412 square meters. The following emerged from the discussion:

• The proposed project site is uninhabited and intercropping is practiced with crops like yam, brinjal, chilly, ginger being grown on the proposed site.

- The proposed land does not have any residential structures on the site and it is an arable shrub area with presence of trees like Cashew nut and Sal.
- He also stated that this acquisition will have no effect on the village as it is a non-agricultural area.
- He further stated that there is a need for BOP in the area as it will prevent the migration of people from Bangladesh and prevent criminal activities like theft and cattle smuggling.
- He also stated that co-operation between the BSF and the nearby villages are needed to avoid illegal activities in the border area.
- He also expressed that the Government as well as the BSF should look after the social development in the village.

Chapter 4: Public Hearing



Figure 3 Public Hearing at Gopinathkilla

The Meghalaya Institute of Governance had conducted a Public Hearing on the 17th of November, 2017 on the Land Acquisition for setting up of Proposed Border Outpost in Gopinathkilla at Nokma's residence at 11:00 am, as part of the Social Impact Assessment study under the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 notified by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.

The programme was chaired by Smt Florina Boro, MCS, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Revenue Dept., Ampati in the presence of Shri Daniel Ingty, Director NRM, Shri M. N. Arengh 26 BN BSF (SI), the Nokma of Gujangpara and the General Public. The meeting was started with the welcome address given by one of the team members of SIA. There was a brief description on the proposed BOP project mentioning that SIA was carried out under the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition,

Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, passed by the Government of India. Followed by the major findings and recommendation of the project in Garo dialect and also requested the people to come forward for any comments and feedbacks based on the report.

Shri Rubison Arengh, Nokma of Gujangpara, mentioned that the land belongs to 6 individuals. The Nokma, Shri Rubison Arengh, Shri Gasin Sangma, Smt Kerassa Marak, Shri Balsrang Arengh, Smt Sebanish Arengh and Shri Mathew Marak. He shared his willingness by mentioning that they have no issues giving the land to the construction of the BOP.

Smt Florina Boro, MCS, clarified about compensation that those names written on the list will be given preliminary notification by the Government and if there is any objection arising out of land ownership then claims and objection are to be done. The compensation will be received according to the Government rate based on the assets and agricultural products.

Shri Daniel Ingty, Director, NRM, briefed about the SIA mentioning that if there is any claims and objections in the Public Hearing then it should be properly recorded and the Government authority should look into the matter.

Shri Rubison Arengh, Nokma stated that with the existence of BOP at Gujangpara, so far there is no illegal activities like Robbery, Smuggling, Cattle lifting etc. that took place in the village. He is happy about the project.

There was a briefing of the importance of the BOP in the border areas to the general public and concluded the Public Hearing with vote of thanks to the villagers and the public gathered. The Public Hearing conducted was observed to be a successful one with all the land owners and the general public ready to cooperate and accepted the proposed BOP project at Gopinathkilla.

Chapter 5: Major Findings

The following chapter discusses the main findings from the field study that the SIA-Unit collected through interactions:

Type of land

The land is on a hilly slope. It may be classified as arable land.

Land ownership

The land belongs to 6 individuals, the Aking Nokma Shri Rubison Arengh, Shri Gasin Sangma, Shri C. Kerassa Marak, Shri Balsrang Arengh, Smt Sebanish Arengh and Shri Mathew Marak.

Use and Access to Land

The land to be acquired is accessible to all. Intercropping is practiced with crops like yam, brinjal, chilly, ginger being grown on the proposed site.

Project Affected Families

There are no project affected families who live on the proposed project site or near the proposed project site.

Structures to be affected

There will be no structures to be affected.

Alternate place for the project

The siting/location of the BOP have been done with careful consideration of the strategic placement of it. Its accessibility and safety/security as such, the proposed land to be acquired is "most suitable" for the proposed project.

Roads and Transport

The approach road that connects to the MRD 8 & SH 12 is about 5 km approx. The approach road connecting Gopinathkilla BOP to the main road and the Gujangpara BOP is narrow but of fairly good condition. The road conditions can be further improved.

Water sources

There are no water sources to be disturbed.

Children and women

The proposed land acquisition would not affect women and children.

Places of religious and cultural importance

There are no places of religious or cultural importance near the project site.

Safety, crime and violence

As per interaction with the Nokma and the BSF personnel, incidents of theft and smuggling have reduced considerably after the Indo-Bangladesh Border Fencing with floodlights put in place. Cases relating to cattle smuggling however are still reported from time to time. As per the sources, the transit points for cattle smuggling in Meghalaya is through South West Garo Hills and East Khasi Hills district.

Food security

The proposed land acquisition would not affect food security in any way.

Affected or vulnerable groups

The area has a majority population comprised of Garo community. The land acquisition would have negligible or no affect to the community.

Economic and livelihood activities

The main economic and livelihood activity undertaken by the people of the village are agriculture and horticulture. The income of the owners/users of the land would decline due to acquisition. A considerable income is derived from the horticultural products on the land. Though, partly they earn additional income as daily labourers in the village itself or travel to adjoining areas for work.

Table 1 Comparative Analysis of Positive and Negative Impact

S. No	Issue	Positive Impact		Negative Impact			Remarks	
		Pre- Construction	Construction	Operation	Pre- Construction	Construction	Operation	
1.	Use & Access to Land	-x-	-x-	-X-	Loss of use and access to land	Loss of use and access to land	Loss of use and access to land	Loss of livelihood as the produce received from the intercropping will be stopped.
2.	Project Affected Persons	Monetary compensati on for the loss of land.	Employme nt during constructio n phase	Employment during the operational phase of the project	-X-	Pollution	-x-	-X-
3.	Structures	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	There are no structures on the land to be acquired
4.	Roads and Transport	-X-	-x-	Improvement of the existing approach road	-X-	-X-	-X-	The road condition is fairly good. It is expected that the road will improve and this will further ease transport in the area.
5.	Water	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	There are no water sources near the proposed

								project site.
6.	Grazing Land	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	There would be no impact
7.	Electricity Supply	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	Disturbanc e of electricity supply during constructio n phase	-X-	The presence of flood lights may increase the sense of safety in the surrounding villages.
8.	Health Care Facilities	-X-	-X-	Increased access to health care access for surrounding villages from the Health centre at the BOP	-X-	-X-	-X-	The design of the composite BOP includes a medical bay which may help surrounding villagers by being the first source of medical attention.
9.	Education al Institution	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-

	S							
10	Women & Children	-X-	-X-	Increased safety to women and children	-X-	Pollution of the village during constructio n period will have adverse effects on women and children's health.	-X-	-X-
11.	Vulnerable Communit ies	-x-	Employme nt opportuniti es	-x-	-X-	-X-	-X-	Employment opportunities during the construction phase
13.	Places of Worship	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-
14.	Cremation /Burial Grounds	-x-	-x-	-X-	-x-	-x-	-x-	-X-

15.	Safety, Crime and Violence	-x-	-X-	Increased safety measures will make the area safer.	-X-	-X-	-X-	Increased sense of safety and increased vigilance of the border areas.
16.	Places of Cultural Meaning	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-
17.	Food Security	-X-	-X-	-x-	-x-	-X-	-X-	-x-
18.	Common Property Resources	-x-	-X-	Plantation of new trees	Loss of trees and vegetation	-X-		Afforestation measures may be taken up in the BOP.
19.	Markets	-X-	Resurgence of the market at Gujangpara	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-
20.	Tourism	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-
21.	Employme	-X-	Employme	-X-	-X-	Employme	-X-	Proper check on labourers and check that Labour

	nt		nt for			nt for		Laws of the country and state are adhered to.
			residents			outsiders		
			during			and child		
			constructio			labourers.		
			n phase					
22	Income Levels	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-X-	-x-

Chapter 6: Social Impact Mitigation Plan

The Meghalaya Institute of Governance which is the state's nodal SIA unit is pleased to present herewith the Social Impact Mitigation Plan which has been prepared to mitigate negative social impacts that may arise out of the proposed land acquisition to establish a Border Outpost according to the RFCTLAAR Act, 2013. The SIMP consists of a set of mitigation, monitoring and institutional measures to be taken during the design, construction and implementation phases of the project to reduce adverse social impacts during the various stages of the project.

Summary of Findings

- There are 6 land owners.
- The land is proposed to be acquired to construct a new BOP to a higher, more strategic position and built as a composite BOP.
- The land is uninhabited and there are no settlements on the proposed land to be acquired.
- Intercropping is practised on the site with crops like yam, brinjal, ginger etc. being grown for self-consumption as well as for sale on the market.

Table 2 Analysis of Social Impact

Type of Impact							
	Negative	Positive					
Agriculture	Loss of cultivable land.	Nil					
Livelihoods	Nil	Employment Opportunities during construction period for villagers from neighbouring areas.					
Trees	Loss of trees and vegetation	. Planting of new trees within the BOP					
Structure	Nil	Nil					

Water	Nil	Nil
Electricity supply	Nil	. Increased electricity supply to the BOP and security installations.
Health	. Impacts on health due to dust, noise pollution, etc.	. Access to health services present in the BOP for surrounding villages.
Road	Nil	. The dilapidated road may be improved.
Miscellaneous	. Adequate measures should be placed to address unforeseen negative impacts such as a Grievance Redress Mechanism and a notified Grievance Redress Officer whom affected persons can approach.	Nil

Measures to Avoid, Mitigate and Compensate Impact

Resettlement Measures

Do not arise as the area has no settlements.

Rehabilitation Measures

 The land owners would be required to be compensated as per Schedule I of the Right to Fair Compensation Transparency in Land Acquisition, Resettlement and Rehabilitation Act, 2013.

Social Measures

- i. Transport and communication will improve.
- ii. Proper information and settlement of unforeseen disputes that may arise should be ensured.

Environmental Measures

i. To protect forest and wildlife that may be present in the area the following legislations are cited:

- a. The Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 as amended upto 1993
- b. The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
- c. Under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 Chapter 3 Section 3.1(i) compensatory afforestation must be made for the loss of all trees in the area.
- ii. Trees are required to be planted to reduce the pollution caused during construction and implementation of the project.

Miscellaneous

- i. Any disputes between the stakeholders regarding land ownership should be resolved first and made sure that compensation is given to the legal owner.
- ii. Adequate measures should be placed to address unforeseen negative impacts.

 Institutional measures like proper Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) cell may be installed and a notified Grievance Redress Officer (GRO) should be appointed.

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9th Asadha, 1937 (S. E.)

PART IIA

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA REVENUE AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

NOTIFICATION

(Under Section 4(1) of Act No. 30 of 2013)

The 24th June, 2015.

No.RDA.67/2013/120.—In exercise of powers conferred by the sub-section (1) of Section 4 of The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (No. 30 of 2013), the Governor of Meghalaya, is pleased to notify Meghalaya Institute of Governance (MIG), Shillong as State Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Unit for conduct of Social Impact Assessment Study.

- (1) The Social Impact Assessment Unit shall undertake the following tasked namely :-
 - (a) build and continuously expand a Database of Qualified Social Impact Assessment Resource
 partners and Practitioners, which will serve as a network of individuals and institutions with
 the required skills and capacities to conduct Social Impact Assessments for land acquisition
 and Rehabilitation and Resettlement;
 - (b) respond immediately to the appropriate Government's request for a Social Impact Assessment to be conducted by preparing a project-specific Terms of Reference;
 - (c) conduct training and capacity building programmes for the Social Impact Assessment team and community surveyors and make available manuals, tools, comparative case study reports and other materials required for the analysis;
 - (d) provide ongoing support and corrective action, as required during the Social Impact Assessment process;
 - (e) ensure that all relevant documents are disclosed as per the provisions of the Act;
 - (f) maintain, catalogue of all Social Impact Assessments and associated primary material; and
 - (g) continuously review, evaluate and strengthen the quality of Social Impact Assessments and the capacities available to conduct them across the State.
- (2) The notification No.RDA.67/2013/73, dated the 27th August, 2015 is hereby repealed.

I. MAWLONG,

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Revenue & Disaster Management Department.

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NOTIFICATION Under Section 4 (1) of RFCT Act, 2013.

Under Section 4 (1) of Right to Fair Compensation & Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.

NO.RDA.15/2017/29

Dated Shillong, the 30th May, 2017

WHEREAS, acquisition of land area measuring 11412 Sq.m at Gopinathkilla (Gujangpara), under South West Garo Hills for the purpose of land acquisition for the construction of Border Outpost for BSF by Government of Meghalaya is/are proposed.

WHEREAS, a social Impact Assessment team of the Meghalaya Institute of Governance (MIG) has been formed to consult, to survey and to take public hearing after publication of this Notification.

WHEREAS, the aforesaid team will fix and indicate the dates and venue for which all concerned will be requested to remain present with their claims/objections/suggestions, if any.

WHEREAS, the concerned land owner Shri. Gasin Sangma, Shri. C. Kerassa Marak, Shri. Balsrang Arengh, Shri. Rubison Arengh, Smt. Sebanish Arengh, Shri. Mathew Marak themselves or their representative the Headman of Gopinathkilla (Gujangpara) and the villagers may remain present for hearing for consent/approval for the project.

WHEREAS, the process must be completed and SIA report must be submitted along with the plan (SIMP) within the time specified as per RFCT-LARR Act, 2013.

WHEREAS, any attempt at coercion or threat against the process during the specified period will render the exercise null & void.

(Shri. B. Hafong, MCS)
Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
Revenue & Disaster Management Department

b/nm

Annexure 3. Attendance Sheet of Public Hearing conducted on 17th of November at Gopinathkilla.

ATTENDANCE SHEET FOR THE MEMBERS PRESENT DURING PUBLIC HEARING ON SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR BORDER OUTPOST HELD ON 17^{1H} NOVEMBER 2017 AT GUJANGPARA , GOPINATH KILLA, SOUTH WEST GARO HILLS, AMPATI.

	Name	Designation	Contact No.	Signature
SL. No.	Name			
1.	Min . F. Boro Mcs	EAZ, Angeli.	940250720	Jane -
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8,	Raju Boro.	SIA worker	897448888	
9.	Heli thoon Arengh	Secretary	8974635621	AAL
10,	POLJINI MATAK			
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17	Gadin sangma			Gme
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