

SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
ON
LAND ACQUISITION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF INTEGRATED FACILITATION CENTER –
ENTRY AND EXIT POINT
IN
ABHIRAMPARA, WEST GARO HILLS DISTRICT



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ABOUT MEGHALAYA INSTITUTE OF GOVERNANCE

The Meghalaya Institute of Governance was created as one of the institutional support mechanism 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 for carrying out Social Impact Assessment Study.

The Social Impact Assessment Team is as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Meghalaya Institute of Governance had carried out a Social Impact Assessment Study for the setting up of Integrated Facilitation Centre - Entry and Exit point at Abhirampara Village. The objective of this study is to identify the likely impacts which may result from the construction of the proposed project.

The concept of Integrated Facilitation Centre – Entry and Exit Point came up as a concession to the demands of local pressure groups to set up the Inner Line Permit to check on the entry of unwanted elements into the state. The Facilitation Centre – Entry and Exit Point was proposed to be set up in all sensitive areas of the state to address the issues of unauthorized immigration into the state, illegal flow of trades and goods, criminal activities, etc. The Facilitation Centre- Entry and Exit Point proposed by the government of Meghalaya aims to address these issues by preventing unlawful entries into the State and to facilitate the legal flow of people, goods and vehicles into the State.

The Integrated Facilitation Centre - Entry and Exit Point is proposed to be set up in Abhirampara village which falls under the Tikrikilla Block, West Garo Hills District. The proposed project site Abhirampara is located along the border of Assam and is about 117 km away from the district headquarter, Tura and about 50 km to Goalpara which is the nearest commercial town.

The amount of land to be acquired for this project measures 32426.89 Sq.mt. The village has a mixed community of Garo, Boro, Hajong and Koch residing around the area. The occupational status in the village is mainly agricultural with few people engaged in business. The literacy rate among the people is low. The socio economic survey of the respondents shows that majority of the respondents fall in the age groups of 18-49 years. They are mostly small traders and farmers with little or no educational qualifications with majority of them earning between Rs. 50,000 per annum to Rs. 1,00,000 per annum.

The research methods adopted for this study was quantitative wherein the primary data was collected from the respondents by using research tools like reconnaissance survey, interview scheduled, focus group discussion, questionnaire and public hearing etc. The secondary data was collected from the Office of Deputy Commissioner (Revenue Branch), Tura. Data analysis and interpretation shows that the majority of the people from Meghalaya carry out normal economic

activity with Assam in term of trading and marketing where no payment for utilising the market is involved. Traders from Assam do not create any nuisance.

In terms of setting up an Integrated Facilitation Centre – Entry and Exit Point at Abhirampara, the majority of the respondents feel that the Facilitation Centre- Entry and Exit Point will increase the market flow and improve the relationship between the people of two States. No effect on the community way of living and further improvement in the safety of the people in the village is expected.

A Public Hearing was conducted as part of the Social Impact Assessment study. More than 30 people were present for the hearing which was chaired by Shri. Kapil Koch, MCS, Block Development Officer, Tikrikilla, in the presence of Smt. P.T.D Sangma, MCS, EAC, Revenue and Yvette G. Momin, Tourist Officer. During the hearing the major findings of the study were shared and discussed with the people. Apart from the issues highlighted by the Social Impact Assessment team, land owners raised issues concerning their property characteristics.

From the findings and Public Hearing, we can conclude that the proposed project will have minimal effect on the community as a whole and the setting up of the Facilitation Centre within Abhirampara village will bring a sense of security and well-being to the people. This Facilitation Centre was seen by the people as an initiative to not only regulate the flow of goods and services but as an initiative to address immigration and land encroachment which is one of the main issues at present. The Integrated Facilitation Centre is also expected to develop the area by bringing employment and economic opportunities to the local people.

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Land Acquisition for Construction of Integrated Facilitation Centre - Entry and Exit Point at Abhirampara, West Garo Hills District.

1. Description of Project

1.1 Objectives of The Project

The objective of this project is to check the entry of people into the state and to facilitate legal flow of people, goods and vehicles into the State.

1.2 Need for The Project

In order to address the issues of unauthorised immigration, illegal flow of goods and service, criminal activities, etc. into the state of Meghalaya the Facilitation Centre will act as a check for the exchange and interaction of goods and services between the states of Assam and Meghalaya. The Integrated Facilitation Centre will facilitate all arrivals and departures of people from the state as well as carry out inspection to avoid any kind of unforeseen issues.

1.3 Project Location

The Integrated Facilitation Centre- Entry and Exit Point will be constructed in Abhirampara under the Constituency of Tikrikilla Community and Rural Development Block, West Garo Hills District. The total land to be acquired for the proposed project on the side of AMPT road (Agia, Medhipara, Phulbari and Tura Road) measures about 32426.89 Sq.mt.

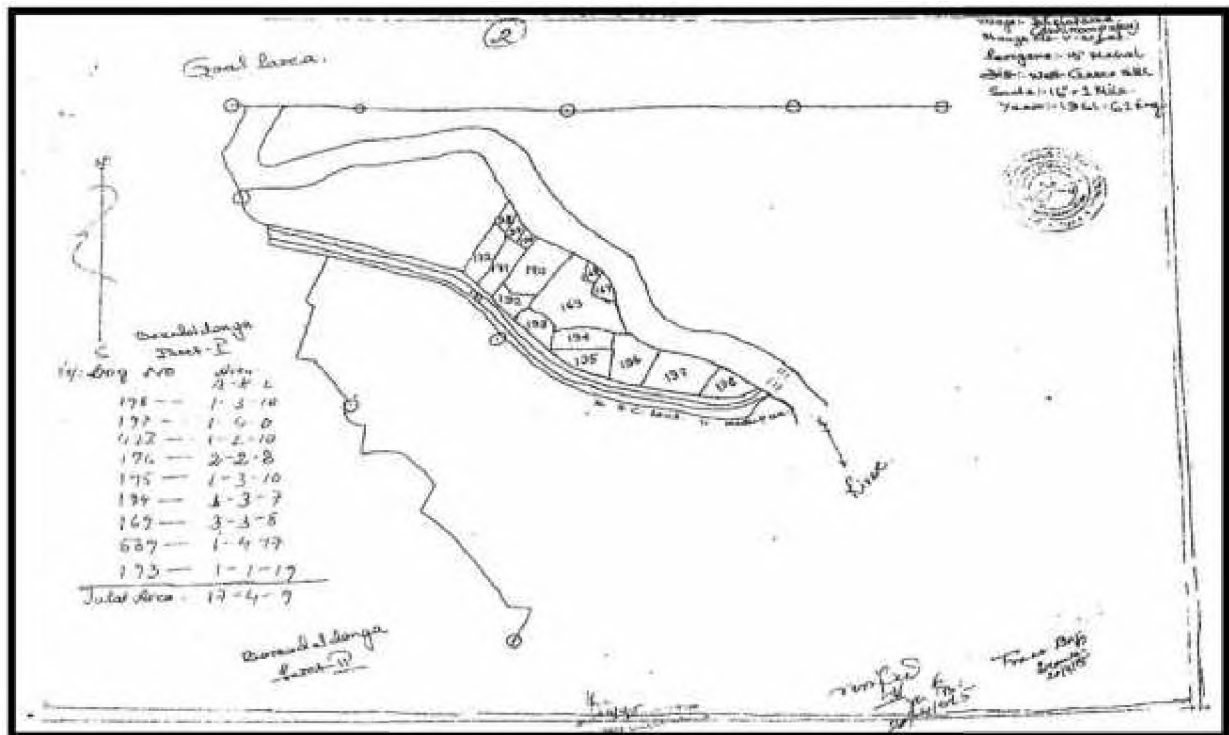
1.4 Proposed Schedule for Implementation

The project was proposed in January, 2015 but due to suitable project site selection, the project implementation has been delayed.

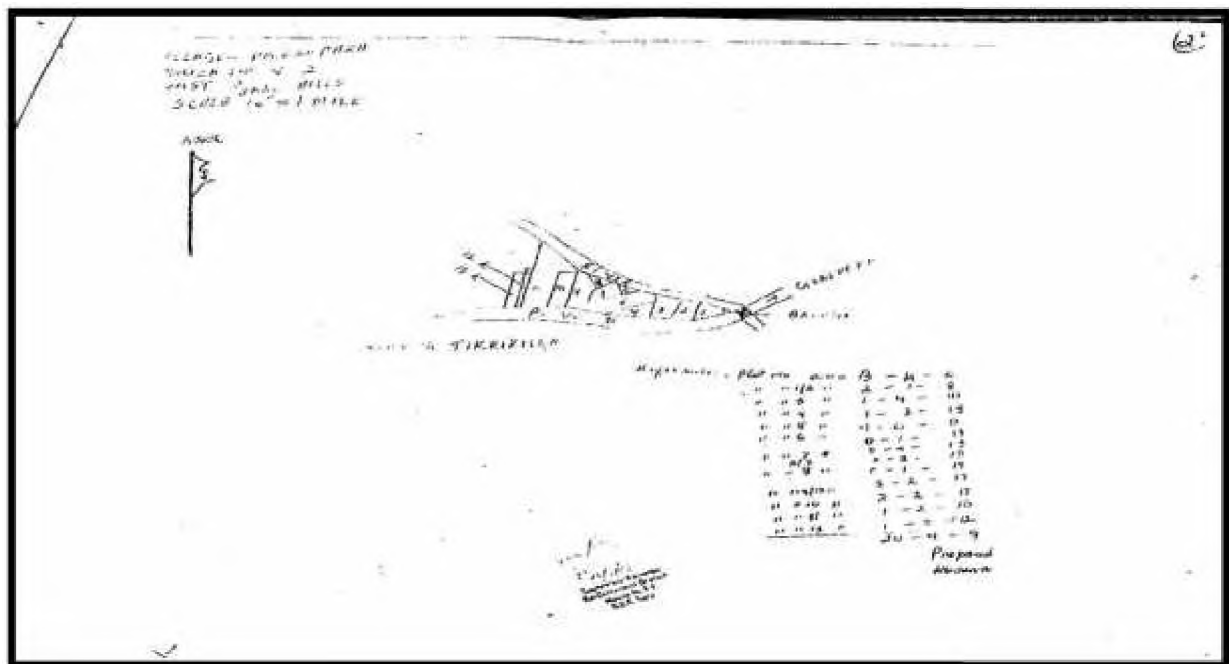
1.5 Maps for Proposed Project Area

The map provided in the report is conducted by the Office of the Deputy Commissioner (Revenue Branch) Tura and Garo Hills Autonomous District Council, West Garo Hills District.

Map 1: Proposed site of Abhirampara showing an area of 32426.89 Sq. metres (approx.)



Map 2: Proposed site of Abhirampara showing an area of 32426.89 Sq. metres (approx.)



Source: Office of the District Commissioner (Revenue Branch), Tura, West Garo Hills District.

2. Research Methodology

2.1 Research Method

The research strategy that the research team has 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, organise, tabulate, depicts and describe the data collection.

2.2 Methods for Data collection

Reconnaissance Survey: The reconnaissance field survey was first carried out to understand the project area before formulating the questionnaire and interview for the primary data collection. Before the data was collected, the research team surveyed the project area, briefed the functionaries and the respondents about the purpose of the data collection and type of data required.

Secondary Data: The research team first reviewed and carried out research on related literature to understand the requirement and needs of the project area. Based on these 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 of relevant documents were obtained from the State Department Officials based on the project type like the details of project profile, type of investment, maps, details of land owners, etc.

Primary data: During the field research, the following methods were used to gather information: Interview (Semi-structured and Key Informant Interview), questionnaire, focus group discussion and field observation. The research team has taken a sample of the 10 directly affected respondents and the sample of 40 indirectly affected respondents from nearby villages, market places and the functionaries from the Village Executive Committee using different methods. The target group for respondents has been selected on the basis of people coming and going between the two states like traders, drivers, farmers, etc. The methods were used in the field both at the community level and household level. The methods used were structured and designed based on the likely impact on the project area.

Public Hearing: As part of the requirement of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (Section) after the submission of a draft report to governing bodies including the village authority, a public hearing is held at the

affected village. The public hearing is conducted with a notion to convey the major findings to the people and to receive further suggestions and opinions on the developmental work within their village. The public hearing was held at Orchid Dhaba in Abhirampara on 30th June 2016.

2.3 Data Processing and Analysis

The data collected has been systematically arranged, organised and tabulated by the Social Impact Assessment Team.

3 Demographic Profile of the Village

Abhirampara village falls under the administrative block of Tikrikilla Community and Rural Development Block in West Garo Hills district. The village is about 117 km from the district town, Tura and about 20 km to Lakhimpur which is the nearest town in Assam and 50 km to Goalpara another economic commercial Town in Assam. The village has a mixed community of Garo, Boro, Hajong and Koch residing around the area. The occupational status in the village is mainly agricultural with few people engaged in business. The nearest market place is Tikrikilla bazar which is about 1 km away. The residents of the adjoining areas do most of their daily marketing from this particular market. The area concerned lies adjoining to the Assam border and the people of both sides have good social and economic relations.

4 Description of Project Area:

The location of the land to be acquired for the construction of Integrated Facilitation Centre cum Entry and Exit Point is at Abhirampara which belongs to 9 individuals and one Association. The total land to be acquired for the project measures about approximately 32426.89 Sq.mt. From the observation, it was found that the land to be acquired is a paddy field situated on an upland. At present cultivation of vegetables was seen. There is also presence of one pucca structured house, one half completed pucca structured house and one kutcha structured house. The facilitation centre will be constructed very close to the Assam border, and besides the AMPT road (Agia, Medhipara, Phulbari, Tura Road) which is the main economic route connecting Meghalaya to Assam in this part of the region. Towards the North of the project site is the Ojagor river and an army camp is based directly opposite to the proposed site.

The pictures below were taken during the reconnaissance survey or preliminary site visit carried out by the Social Impact Assessment Team from the Meghalaya Institute of Governance, Shillong.

Photo 1: Proposed site for Integrated Facilitation Centre cum Entry & Exit Point



Photo 2: Proposed site for Integrated Facilitation Centre cum Entry & Exit Point



Source: Meghalaya Institute of Governance, Social Impact Assessment Unit, Shillong

5. Anticipated Project Impacts

The project site is an upland where rice and vegetables are grown, and is owned by 10 land owners in total. There is presence of one pucca structured house, one half completed pucca structured house and one kutcha structured house which will be affected.

The half completed pucca house was built prior to the selection of the project site for settlement purpose by Dinesh Hajong, which he has now stopped working on. The other pucca structured house belongs to the Auto Association.

The effect on the household's movable and immovable assets is minimal. The livelihood of the land owner will be affected as they use the land for agricultural purposes, however mainly for self-subsistence.

The presence of Entry and Exit Point will keep a check on the illegal flow of goods, infiltration and illegal immigration.

According to the Social Impact Assessment study, issues such as illegal transportation of goods, free flow of goods, vehicles, rise in criminal activities, difficulties to access to basic amenities etc. are some of the problems which are likely to be faced by the villagers if there is no proper scrutiny along the border.

Tikrikilla Bazar is about a kilometre away from the proposed point, which serves as the main commercial centre for this area. The market therefore provides employment and economic opportunities to many who earn their living through trade and commerce. The market not only caters to the local residents of Meghalaya but also to the residents of Assam. During the study, it was also observed that close to the proposed site there are large areas of agricultural land and hence it can be noted that agriculture is another major occupation of the area.

The construction of an Integrated Facilitation Centre cum Entry and Exit Point at Abhirampara is likely to affect the traders and daily commuters of that particular area as well as nearby villages like Borodoldonga, Loskorpara, Tikrikilla market, Kadamsali, Kathalbari, etc., who travel to and fro between Assam and Meghalaya. The businessmen trading between the two states are likely to be affected, especially those who do not have valid documents for trading between the areas.

6. Data Analysis and Interpretation

The primary data collected and gathered from the respondents has been analysed and interpreted by the SIA Team.

6.0 Directly Affected Respondents

Table 1 : Profile of directly affected Respondents						
Sl. No.	Name	Land ownership	Class of Land	Area of Land	Property Characteristic	Make
1.	Smt. RashmiKhaklari	Own	Foring		• Land	
2.	ShriRahenHajong	Own	Foring		• Land	
3.	ShriBenedickMarak	Own	Foring		• Land • House : 1 no.	Kutchra
4.	ShriKamaleswarHajong	Own	Foring		• Land	
5.	Smt. RashmiKhaklari	Own	Foring		• Land	
6.	ShriPrabinBasumatary	Own	Foring		• Land	
7.	Auto Association	Own	Foring		• land • House : 1 no.	Pucca
8.	ShriSomenBoro	Own	Foring		• Land	
9.	ShriKamaleswarHajong	Own	Foring		• Land	
10.	Shri Dinesh Hajong	Own	Foring		• Land • House : 1 no.	Pucca
11	Smt. Mickilla N. Sangma	Own	Foring		• Land	
12	Smt. SonaliHajong	Own	Foring		• Land	

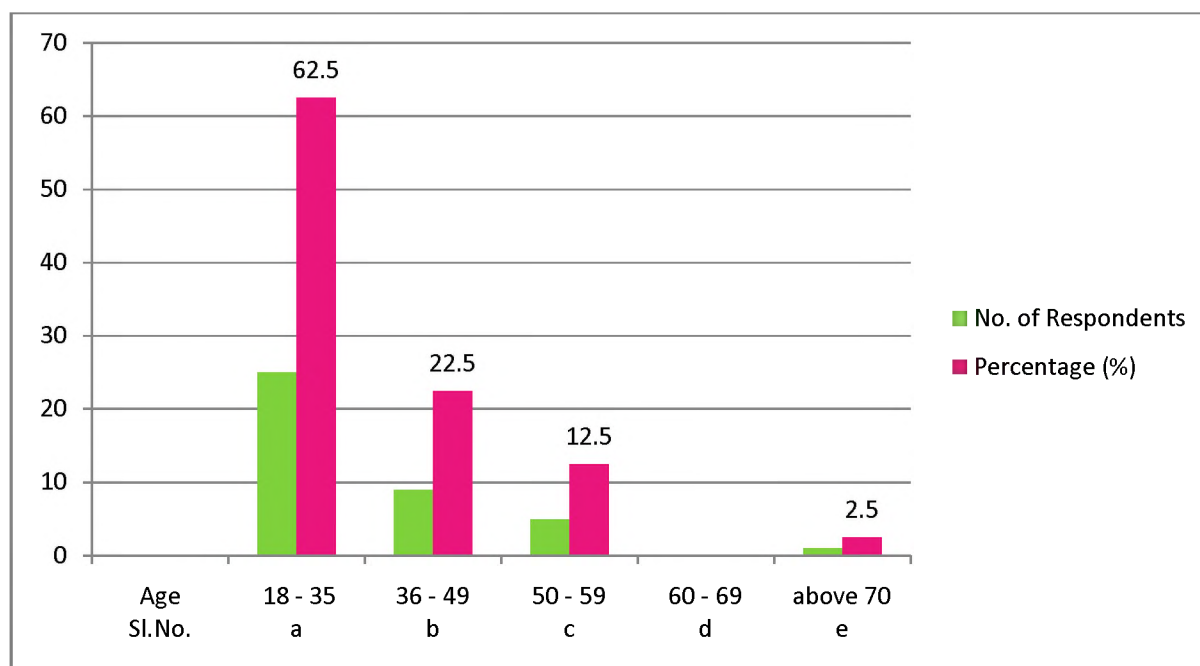
This section further describes the data collected from the directly affected respondents falling under the age group of 18-70 years. From the total respondents who will be affected directly, 5 are males, 4 are females and one plot belongs to the Auto Association. No member was present from the Auto Association for the interview and focus group discussion that was held. 11% of the respondents were found to be illiterate and the remaining 89% barely educated till high school. From the respondents it is found that the majority, i.e. 44% are engaged in agriculture while the rest are engaged in small business, as casual labourer, etc. The other sources of livelihood undertaken by the respondents are horticulture, fishery, dairy farming, piggery which however are mainly for self-consumption. From among the total respondents, only 3 fall under BPL category. 7 respondents said that they own alternate land while 2 responded that they do not have an alternate land of their own. The question of resettlement does not arise as the respondents do not dwell in the proposed site. The study also took the respondents view on whether there was need for the integrated facilitation centre cum Entry and Exit point, to which 100% responded positively and said that there is a need for the said project as it will check on immigration, illegal trading and also help develop the market and bring about competition and business prospects which in turn will increase employment of local people. When asked about their aspirations from the project, the land owners requested for adequate land compensation, employment for their children based on educational credentials and a business outlet in the said project hence considering the acquisition of their land.

6.1 Socio- Economic Profile of the Indirectly affected Respondents

This section describes the socio- economic profile of the Respondents falling under the age group of 18-70 years.

Table 2: Age of Respondents			
Sl.no	Age of Respondents	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
A	18-35	25	62.5
B	36-49	9	22.5
C	50-59	5	12.5
D	60-69		
E	Above 70	1	2.5

Chart 1: Age of Respondents



The table 1 and Chart 1 indicate the respondent's age groups. Majority of respondents fall under the age groups of 18-35 years.

Table 3: Gender of Respondents			
Sl.no	Gender	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
a	Male	40	100
b	Female	0	0

Table 3 indicates the gender of the respondents. It is seen that all of the respondents are male and there are no female respondents. Most of the occupations like economic activities, agriculture, daily wages, etc. were seen to be carried out by males.

Table 4: Highest Level of Education of Respondents			
Sl.no	Education	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
a	Illiterate	1	2.5
b	Primary (class V)	4	10
c	Upper primary (Class VIII)	4	10
d	Secondary	8	20
e	High school	10	25
f	Others	13	32.5

Table 4 indicates the highest level of education of the respondents. From the table above it can be noted that majority are literate and are educated above higher secondary. There are however many who are educated between Class V to High School after which most stop pursuing their further education.

Table 5: Occupation of Respondents		
Sl.no	Occupation	Percentage (%)
a	Farmers	0
b	Government Employee	5
c	Business	92.5
d	Student	2.5
e	Casual Labourer	0
f	Daily wage worker	0
g	Others	0

Chart 2: Occupation of Respondents

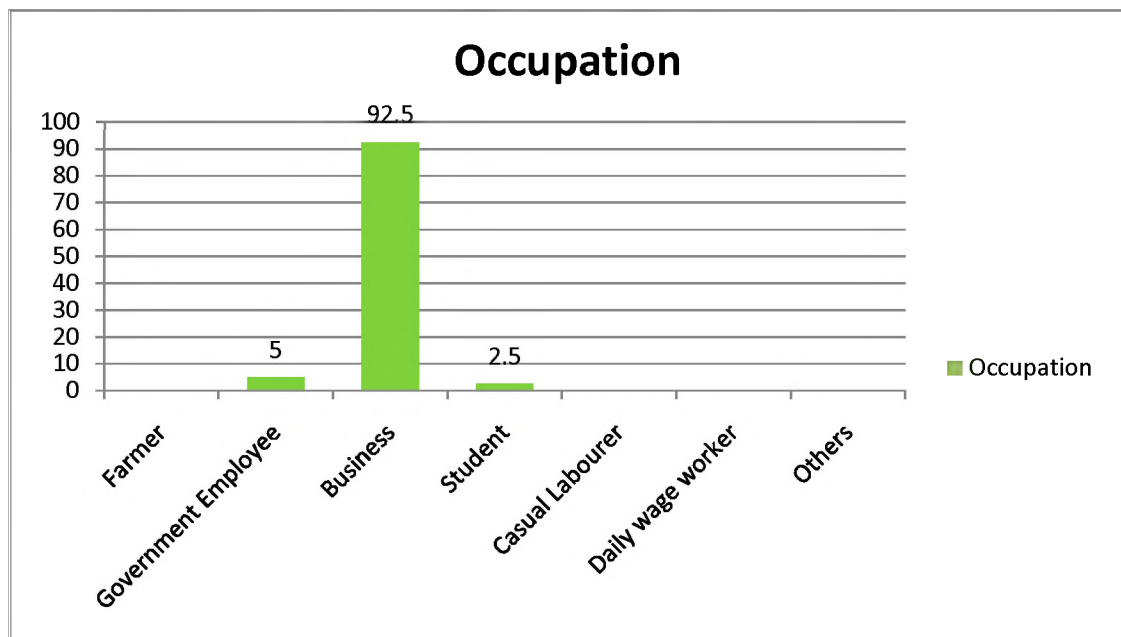


Table 5 and Chart 2 indicate the major occupation of the respondents. The major occupational status of the respondents is small retail businesses and quite a number are engaged in other occupations.

Table 6 below shows that in terms of income, 40 % of the respondents earn more than Rs.1,00,000 per annum and 57 % earn between Rs. 50,000 per annum to Rs.1,00,000 per annum and 3% of respondents earn less than Rs. 25,000 per annum.

Table 6: Annual Income of Respondents			
Sl.no.	Income per annum	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
a	Less the Rs. 25,000	0	0
b	>Rs. 25,001- less than Rs. 50,000	1	2.5
c	>Rs. 50,001- less than Rs. 75,000	10	25
d	>Rs. 75,001- less than Rs. 1,00,000	13	32.5
e	>Rs. 1,00,001	16	40
f	Not earning	0	0

6.2 Utility and Accessibility of Inter-State Travel

The research team assessed the frequency of travel by the respondents. The research team also attempted to understand the issues and concerns of the respondents while travelling to Assam as well as grievances of people from outside the state entering Meghalaya.

Table 7: Respondent's Travel to Assam			
Sl.no	If respondent travel to Assam	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
a	Yes	40	100
b	No	0	0
c	never	0	0

Table 7 above indicates that all the respondents travel to Assam. The close proximity to the border hence makes it easier for the local people to go into adjoining areas of Assam. Also the main highway i.e., the AMPT road cuts across adjoining areas of Assam and connects major commercial towns like Goalpara and Guwahati.

Table 8: Frequency of Travel to Assam			
Sl.no	Frequency of Travel to Assam	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
a	Everyday	14	35
b	Once in a week	5	12.5
c	Twice or more in a month	21	52.5
d	Never	0	0
e	Once in a year	0	0

Chart 3: Frequency of Travel to Assam

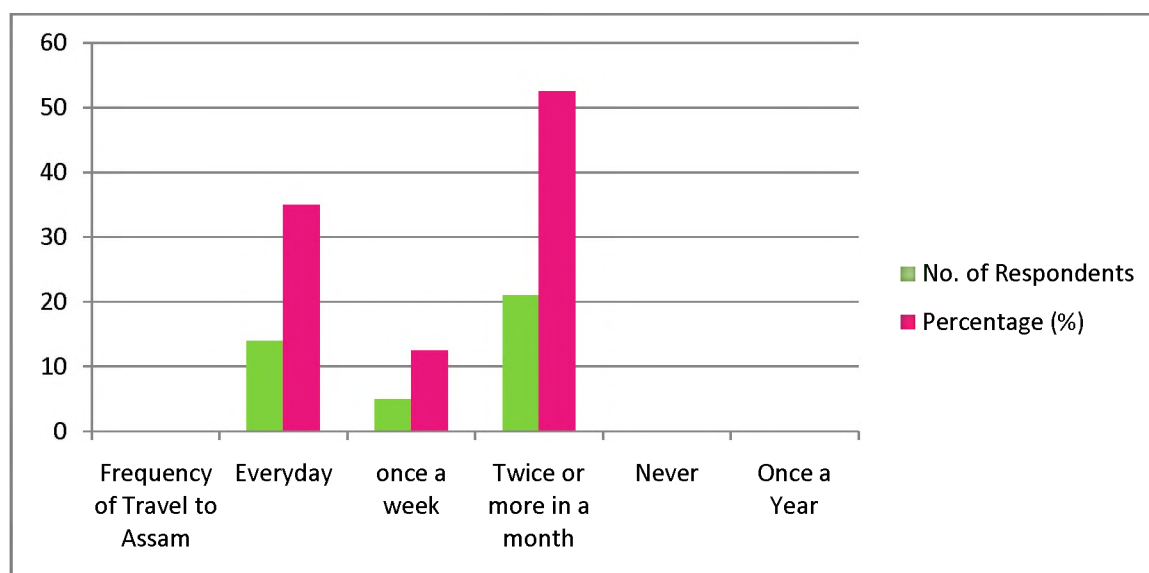


Table 8 and Chart 3 indicate the frequency of travel made by the respondents. Many of the respondents travel on a daily or weekly basis to Assam. The majority however travel twice or more in a month. The close proximity to the border thus makes it easier for the local residents to travel on a daily basis.

Table 9: Primary Purpose of Visit to Assam			
Sl.no	Primary purpose of Visit to Assam	No of Responses	Percentage (%)
a	Marketing	36	40.4
b	Casual labourer	3	3.3
c	Medical accessibility	16	17.9
d	Accessibility to Education	5	5
e	Trading	22	24.7
f	Daily wage	3	3.3
g	Others	4	4.4

Table 9 above shows the primary purpose of the respondents travel to Assam. It can be noted that majority travel mainly for marketing and trading purposes. Medical accessibility is another important reason for their travel to Assam as there are no good hospitals in the area with proper facilities. Many therefore travel to Goalpara and Guwahati for the same. The local people also go to these towns to work as casual labourer and daily wagers. The findings also show that quite a number of local people have their lands in adjoining Assam areas and also have social relations across.

Table 10: Mode of Transportation to Assam			
Sl.no	Mode of transportation	No of Responses	Percentage (%)
a	Public transportation	34	85
b	Private transportation	11	27.5
c	By foot	2	5

Table 10 above shows that majority of the respondents use public transportation like local sumo, buses, etc., There are many buses coming in from Assam that use the route frequently connecting Tikrikilla to towns in Assam such as Guwahati, Goalpara, Mankachar and Dhubri. There are many who use their private vehicles as well to travel to these places. The respondents also go to the adjoining Assam areas on foot as it is very close by and presence of many interior village routes in the area makes it easy.

Table 11: Route Used by Respondents			
Sl.no	Route used by Respondent	No of Responses	Percentage (%)
a	Village/ interior roads	9	18.36
b	Main State Highway	40	81.63
c	Others	0	0

Table 11 shows that majority of the respondents use the main state highway, i.e., the AMPT road (AgiaMedhiparaPhulbari and Tura road) which is the main route connecting this region to Assam and the district headquarter , Tura. There are many who use the village/ interior roads to travel to adjoining Assam areas for various purposes.

Table 12: Problem Faced When Returning from Assam			
Sl.no	Problem faced when returning from Assam	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
a	Yes	0	0
b	No	40	100
c	Never	0	0

Table 12 shows that majority of the respondents travelling to Assam to carry out various activities have never faced any problems. The only problem however stated by all is the condition of the road from Tikrikilla to Agia (AMPT road) which at present is at a dilapidated state.

Table13: People Coming from Assam			
Sl.no	Do people come from Assam?	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
a	Yes	40	100
b	No	0	0
c	Never	0	0

Table 13 shows that people from Assam visit Meghalaya. The close proximity to the Assam border and towns like Mankacharin Assam connected through this route makes it inevitable for Assam

people not to go through this route or utilize the facilities available here such as centres offering health care, education and economic opportunities.

Table No 14: Purpose of Visit by Assamese People			
Sl.no	Purpose of visit	No of Responses	Percentage (%)
a	Trading of goods	36	39.13
b	Driving	14	15.21
c	Casual Labourer	26	28.26
d	Daily wage	16	17.39
e	Others	0	0

Chart 4: Purpose of visit by Assam People

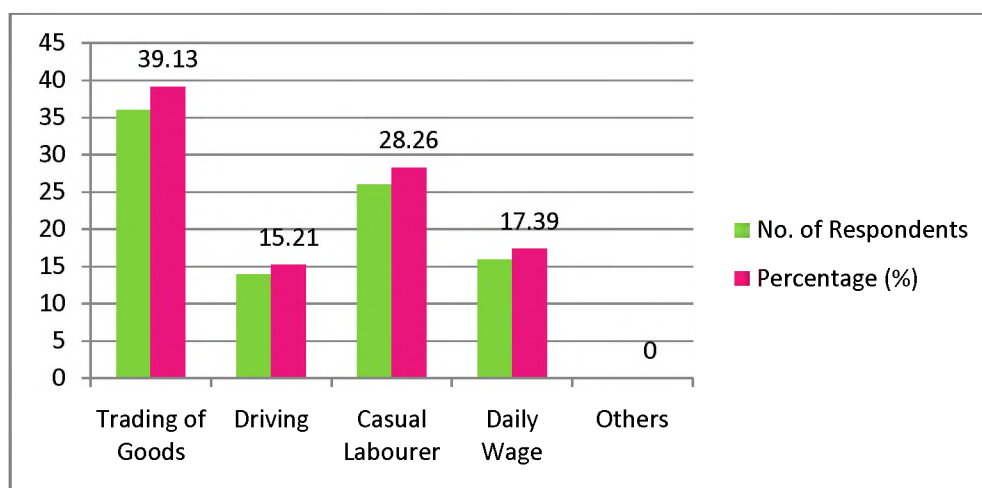


Table 14 and Chart 4 show the primary purpose of visit by the people from Assam to this area. It is observed from the above table that trading of goods is the primary purpose here. The presence of Tikrikilla market which is the main commercial centre in this part of the area makes this an obvious reason. The presence of market provides employment and economic opportunities

therefore and we can see that casual labourer, daily wagers and driving are the other major reasons for their visit to the area.

Table 15: Payment of Fee by Outsider for Trading in Tikrikilla Village			
Sl.no	Payment of fee for trading	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
a	Yes	40	100
b	No	0	0
c	No Answer	0	0

Table 15 shows that people from Assam trading in Tikrikilla and adjoining areas or other village markets within the state of Meghalaya have to pay a market day fee of Rs 10 to Rs 20/ market day or Rs 1000 per annum based on the products in which they trade.

The fee is collected by the Garo Hills Autonomous District Council and it is collected from every trader, even the traders from Meghalaya.

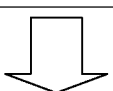
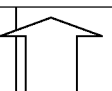
Table 17 : In Flow and Out Flow of Goods				
Sl. No.	In Flow 	From	Out Flow 	From
1.	Vegetables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assam 	Beetle nut	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tikrikilla
2.	Poultry		Vegetables	
3.	Fish		Timber	
4.	Groceries			
5.	Hardware materials			
6.				

Table 17 shows that the major produce of the area are beetle nut, vegetables and timber. The vegetables are sold in the weekly market in Tikrikilla and are also exported and sold in nearby areas like Lakhipur. Beetle nut and timber are also exported to places like Dhubri and Goalpara in Assam.

The in-flow of goods from Assam vary from vegetables, rice, dal, fish and other groceries to hardware materials such as metal rods, cement, etc. for construction. Many traders hence bring their goods for sale during the weekly market day on Friday.

Table 18: Problems from Assamese People			
Sl.no	Problem Faced with the Assam people	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
a	Yes	4	10
b	No	36	90
c	Never	0	0

Chart 5: Problems from Assamese People

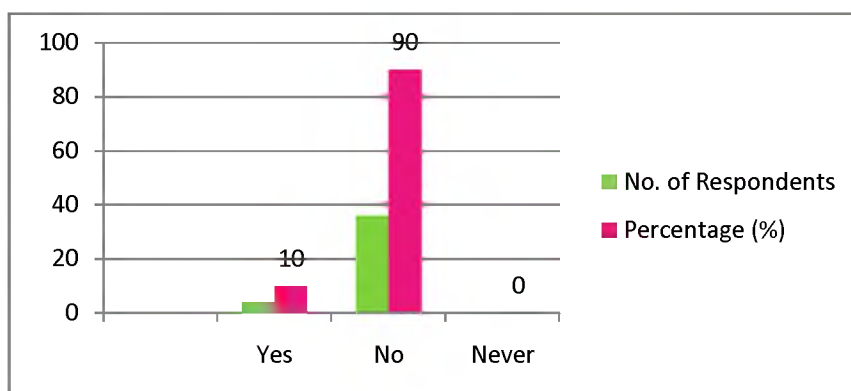


Table 17 and Chart 5 shows the problem faced with the entry of Assamese people into the state. Majority of the respondents said that they have never encountered any problem with the Assam people. However there are few who have said that they have faced problems with the people coming from Assam with theft being one of the major problems. There have been many instances of goods being stolen from shops and also cattle being stolen from nearby areas.

Table 19: Concerns About People Coming from Outside of the State		
Sl.no	Concerns about people coming from outside of the state	Percentage (%)
a	Theft	32.20
b	Influx	27.11
c	Inter- marriage	27.11
d	Safety	0
e	Social Mischief	6.77
f	No idea	6.77

Chart 6: Respondents' Concerns

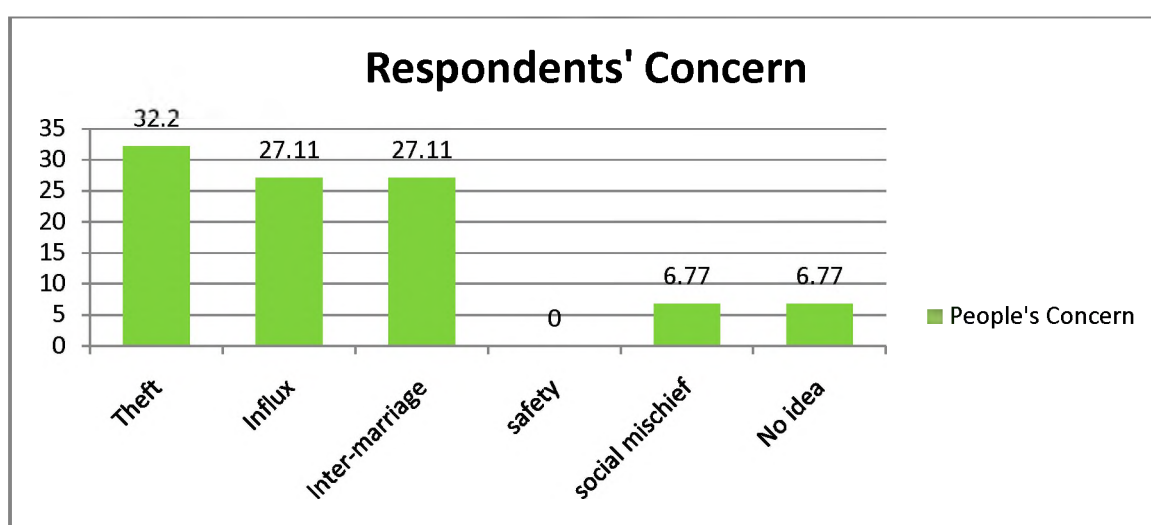


Table 18 and Chart 6 show the concern of the respondents about people coming from outside the state. From the above, it can be noted that the primary concern of the people is theft as there have been many instances where cattle and goods were stolen from shops. The other major concerns cited by the respondents are influx and inter marriage. Influx has been a key issue in this part of the region with increase in people from outside states and land encroachment in the border areas.

6.3 Phase Wise Assessment of Proposed Construction Project

This section describes the respondent's awareness level on the proposed project.

Table 20: Awareness Level On the Setting Up of a Facilitation Centre			
Sl.no	Awareness level	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
a	Yes	6	15
b	No	34	85

Chart 6: Awareness Level on the Setting up of a Facilitation Centre

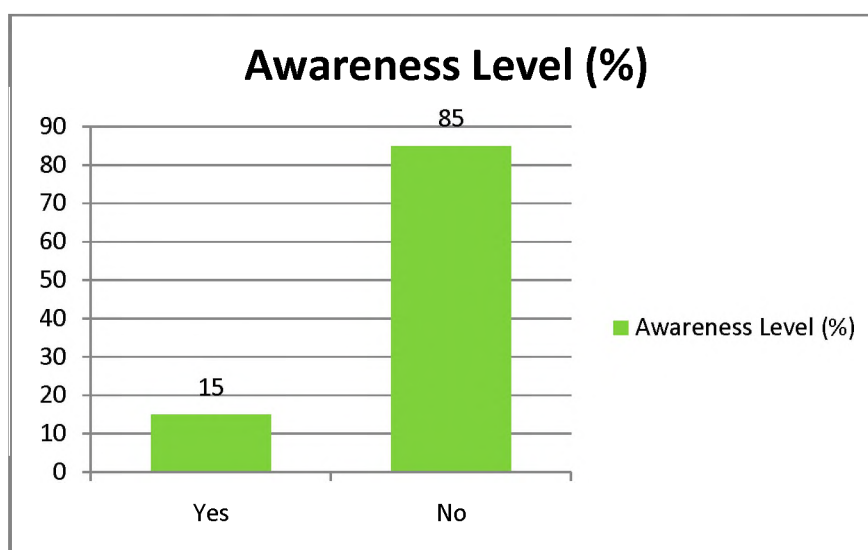


Table 19 and Chart 7 show that only 15% of the respondents were aware about the proposed project in Abhirampara while 85% i.e. the majority of the respondents were unaware about the proposed project in the area.

Table 21: Respondent Views On the Functioning of Entry and Exit Point			
Sl.no	Respondent views on the functioning if an Entry and Exit Point	No of Responses	Percentage (%)
a	Check on illegal immigration	41	36.28
b	Check on illegal flow of trades and goods	34	30.08
c	Check on criminal intention	38	33.62
e	Others	0	0

From Table 21 we can see that a majority of the respondents are of the view that the Integrated Facilitation Centre's key function should be to keep a check on illegal immigration which has

become major issue today with rise in population, changing demographics and encroachment along the border areas. The respondents also felt the need for check on illegal flow of trades and goods and check on criminal intent as well so as to curb social evils. This in turn will also help the police greatly to detect criminals and such activities.

Table 22: Feeling Regarding the Construction of an Entry and Exit Point			
Sl.no	Feeling about the construction of an Entry and Exit Point	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
a	Good	40	100 %
b	Bad	0	0
c	Okay	0	0
d	No response	0	0

Table 22 describes the feeling of the people on the setting up of a Facilitation Centre from Abhirampara and adjoining villages. All the respondents feel that the proposed project will be favourable for the residents of the Abhirampara and Tikrikilla as a whole. The proposed project therefore is expected to bring employment and economic opportunities for the local people and also bring systematic economic transactions.

Table 23: Change in The Market Flow After the Construction of E&E Pt.			
Sl.no	Change in the market flow	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
a	It will make it better	40	100
b	It will make it worse	0	0
c	No change	0	0
d	No response	0	0

Table 23 shows the respondents view about their concerns on the market flow between the two states after the proposed construction is in place. To this majority stated that the Facilitation Centre will certainly make the market flow better as it will open up opportunities for many.

Table 24: Change in Relationship Between People On Both Side After Construction

Sl. No.	Change in relationship between people on both side	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
a	It will make it better	33	82.5
b	It will make it worse	0	0
c	No change	7	17.5
d	No response	0	0

Table 24 shows the respondents view on their concerns over the likely impact on the relationship of the people between the two states. It is observed from the data available that majority feel that the facilitation Centre will make the relation of the people on both sides better. However many feel it won't bring any changes and the relation between the people on both sides will be the same.

Table 25: Change in Community Way of Living After the Construction

Sl.no	Change in community way of living	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
a	Yes	0	0
b	No	34	85
c	Remain the same	6	15
d	Don't Know	0	0

Table 25 above shows the respondents concern over the likely impact on the village community life after the proposed construction. The majority are of the view that the Integrated Facilitation Centre will bring no major effect on the community way of living after the project completion while some state that the community will remain the same.

Table No 26: Change in Safety of the People After Construction

Sl.no	Change in safety of the people	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)

a	It will make it better	13	32.5
b	It will make it worse	0	0
c	No change	13	32.5
d	Don't Know	0	0
e	No response	14	35

Table 26 shows the respondents response when asked about their concerns on the safety in the village after the construction of the proposed project. Many believe that the Facilitation Centre will strengthen and improve the safety of the people in the village and criminal activities like incidents of theft, harassment etc. will be brought under control. There are many however who think that there will be no change in the safety of the people in the village and things will be the same as usual.

7. Data Collection from The Public Hearing Held at Abhirampara

The Meghalaya Institute of Governance had conducted a Public Hearing on the 30th of June, 2016 on the Integrated Facilitation Centre-Entry/ Exit point in Orchid Dhaba, Abhirampara



Photo 3: Photo from Public Hearing at Abhirampara

at 10:00 a.m. as part of the Social Impact Assessment study under the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.

Shri Kapil Koch,

Block Development Officer (MCS) of

Tikrikilla, chaired the programme, where he stated that the Public Hearing was being conducted to inform the community and the general public at large in connection to the land acquisition for the purpose of Integrated Facilitation Centre cum Entry and Exit Point in Abhirampara measuring an area of 20 Bighas, 4 Kathas and 9 Lessas (27950.82 Sq. Mts.). He said that under Tikrikilla Block, two villages have been selected for putting up the Integrated Facilitation Centre i.e., Abhirampara and Medhipara. A year back for the first time GDC had come and measured all the lands. The village was also surveyed by the Revenue Branch DC office. Meghalaya Institute of Governance, Social Impact Assessment unit has also conducted the survey and interviewed the directly affected and indirectly affected households and hence the Public Hearing is being conducted now for further clarification on the said acquisition and review of the Impact assessment report. He read out all the land owners' names and said that there are 12 land owners in total and ended his speech by requesting the villagers/land owners to give any comments and feedbacks after the report was shared.

Smt Pearla Tatyana D Sangma, (MCS) Extra Assistant Commissioner (EAC), Revenue, Tura, added, these lands were considered for putting the Facilitation Centre cum Entry and Exit Point. Entry and Exit Point will facilitate the issues of unauthorized immigration, criminal activities, illegal flow of people etc into the state of Meghalaya. At present people are coming to Meghalaya for many purposes like daily wage work, trading, etc. and they can easily trespass into our state and hence can do anything. The Facilitation centre thus will help to check whether they

are entering for right or for the wrong reasons. It will benefit the daily life of the people here and also help the police to find out the culprits through this check point. This Facilitation centre will bring various benefits like parking, food plaza; rest room etc and many more departments will be working in a same roof. She also urged the public to give their comments and views as the public hearing was meant for them and any issue that arise will be taken care thereafter.

Voices of the village members:

1. Nokma Abhirampara - The Nokma of Abhirampara village had expressed his feelings of happiness on the proposed setting up of Facilitation Centre in the Village. He said that people from Assam are slowly trespassing into the village and occupying the lands. Some who are long-time residents of the village do not have valid Identity Cards. Many who are not residents of Meghalaya are slowly trying to occupy the area by various means and ways and hence the implementation of Inner Line Permit will help in controlling the inflow of people. With these words the Nokma of Abhirampara concluded his speech by thanking everyone who was present for the meeting.



Photo 4: Photo from Public Hearing at Abhirampara

2. **MeckillaSangma** added that according to the first initial visit to the site, respected officers had said that, employment will be provided to family members of those whose land is to be taken to which they were happy with the proposal. But as the officers now we're not sure for providing the same is creating problems to the people of the village to understand.

P.T.D Sangma (MCS, EAC Revenue) addressed Smt. MeckillaSangma's query explaining that certain jobs cannot be given as compensation by the Government as the jobs demand necessary requirements and skills. However jobs like *chowkidar*, *mali*, etc. can be considered by the authority concerned. She also added that the rate for land compensation will be according to the Garo Hills District Council rates and that 5% rate may increase each year and it will be according to 2012 rate.

4. **NarodMochahary** (Member, Land Owners Committee) stated that the land is in the name of RashmiKhaklary and not in his name (NarodMochahary). He also stated that the names in the land statement prepared by the Garo Hills District Council needs to be corrected as there were many mistakes in the land ownership names and also the size of land holdings.
5. (Village member): According to one of the residents of the village, it is a request made by them to give a way for the villager to pass by through the project site.
6. **SmtiP.T.D Sangma (MCS)** replied to the villager saying the government will think over it and take a decision on the same.
7. A Representative from Auto Association also expressed his heartfelt happiness in setting up of the Facilitation Centre in the Village. He however revealed that they have not made land Patta (no certified land document) for that particular land.
8. ShriNarodMochahary then highlighted the grievances and aspirations on behalf of the land owners committee, to the different authorities concerned on the purpose of land acquisition of Integrated Facilitation Centre cum Entry and Exit Point in Abhirampara.

Suggestions/ Feedback from the officials:-

1. ShriKapil Koch (BDO, MCS) said that the land documents should be proper and accurate according to the land document present.
2. The patta (certified land document) needs to be made by the land owners to receive the compensation from the government, which will be based on land measurements in the land record.
3. The Garo Hills Autonomous District Council should send their officials to check and verify the land holdings again in order to avoid unforeseen mistakes which were committed earlier.

Conclusion:

With lot of positive interaction, discussion, comments and feedbacks the villagers of Abhirampara are ready to accept construction of Facilitation Centre cum Entry and Exit point. The villagers showed their acceptance by raising their hands.

8. Major Findings and Recommendation

8.1 Findings

In the social relations and community well-being, the following were observed:

- Majority of the respondents felt that after the proposed construction there will be no change in the relationship of the people between the two states.
- Majority of the respondent felt that the proposed project will have a better impact on the village in term of community way of living and safety.
- In their trade relations, the respondents have pointed out that at present, they have not faced any problems with the Assamese people who come to trade. Setting up of proposed Facilitation Centre – Entry and Exit Point may disrupt these peaceful relations. The Facilitation Centre may bring hindrance to the freedom of entry and exit of Assamese traders into the state. However, change in this economic activity may lead to hike in prices of goods and services that are brought by these traders to Tikrikilla and the other local markets in Meghalaya.



Photo 5: Public Hearing at Abhirampara

In the aspects of trade and economic activities the following was observed:

- The findings show that the majority of the respondents are owners of small retail shops and farmers. Since majority of the people living near Abhirampara are farmers and small business vendors, it is important to keep in mind that the proposed project does

not affect and diminish the capacity to earn income to sustain their livelihood. As they are solely dependent on these above mentioned activities for livelihood.

- Majority of the respondents felt that the construction of the proposed Facilitation Centre Entry and Exit Point in the village will create a better market competition and bring business prospects to the area.

The following were observed with regards to criminal activities in the area:

- Majority of the respondents felt that the Facilitation Centre cum Entry and Exit Point should check towards influx, trades, illegal immigration, illegal flow of goods and services, illegal collection from unwanted quarters and criminal intentions etc. Hence, these will lead to honesty, security and reliability between residents, traders and officials thereby helping in economic growth.
- Through interview and conversations, it was found that the main social problem in that particular area is theft which was causing major hurdle for the people from time to time.

With regards to border issues the following were observed:

- Residents of Abhirampara village and adjoining areas who travel to Assam use the AMPT road (Agia, Medipara, Phulbari and Tura Road) and village interior road for trading, marketing, and other purposes like medical accessibility, visiting family members, etc. It is important hence that the proposed project have a system in place that does not hinder the mobility of the residents of Meghalaya, in terms of registration for arrival and departure, over payment of fees, especially for the ones from the concerned area.
- The findings and observation bring to light that majority of the people from adjoining Assam come to the village (proposed project site) and adjoining areas mainly for trading and to work as casual labourers and daily wage workers, thereby providing cheap labour, access to goods and services.
- Though cheap labour and goods are being received from traders from across the state, this however is taking a share on the job opportunities, economic opportunities, land resources and health services from the residents of Meghalaya, who can avail this opportunities instead.
- It is found through observation that due to its large accessible border area and unavailability of border fencings between Assam and Meghalaya, there are a number of interior village routes through which people from Assam could easily enter into

Meghalaya. The situation as such begs the question on how the Facilitation Centre would address the issue and keep a check on the same.

8.2 Recommendations

- During the public hearing it was found that the land statement provided by the Garo Hills Autonomous District Council (GHADC), had committed certain mistakes in regards to the number of land owners and their area of land holdings. This need to be examined in order to avoid future chaos. Hence, the GHADC is required to access to the proposed land and correct the same.
- In order to address to the need of the people early implementation of the proposed construction should be executed at the earliest. However, the local people should not face any kind of insecurity and hardship while using the Facilitation Centre-Entry and Exit Point.
- There need to be a system which would provide identity cards or keep a proper register of locals to avoid over checking and difficulties in registration for arrival and departure of the local people especially those of daily visitors.
- Employment of local people should be a priority for unskilled or clerical jobs. It may be recommended that the use of locals to check the entry and exit of people would be best as the locals themselves can identify unwanted elements. It would to a certain degree create local employment opportunities.
- Collaboration between the Meghalaya and Assam Government is required to improve the accessibility to basic amenities in these border areas in term of road connectivity, education, health, livelihoods promotion, etc.
- Practice of accountability and transparency should be encouraged for functionaries who will be taking charge of the Entry and Exit Points cum Facilitation centre.
- Proper maintenance of the entry and exit point should be made to prevent any like of unforeseen problem.
- The directly affected respondents i.e., the land owners aspire for land compensation, employment to one of their family member's and a business outlet in the office complex. The aspirations may hence be considered taking into account the project impacts on acquisition of their land.

- The site is suitable for the said purpose and there is no such suitable alternative land nearby. The land hence can be acquired by the concerned authority fulfilling the conditions.

9. Social Impact Management Plan/ Social Impact Mitigation Plan for the Proposed Facilitation Centre-Entry and Exit Point at Abhirampara.

The Social Impact Assessment study team has committed efforts to ensure that the impacts of the proposed project are maintained within the acceptable standards.

Socio-Economic Mitigation

- Work in collaboration with relevant government representative in the project area.



Photo 6: Public Hearing at Abhirampara

- Reinstall or rehabilitate social infrastructure removed or damaged due to the project development.
- Develop appropriate benefits for non-beneficiary community members residing in the project area. Benefits to be taken into consideration to include energy supply, installation of transformers, employment by giving the locals priority in terms of job allocations especially for activities requiring non-skilled laborers.
- Compensate land and property owners for acquired land and/or measurable disturbance:

The land owners' aspirations are:

- 1) Land compensation;
- 2) One of their family members be given a job in the proposed office to be set up as per educational credentials.

3) A Business outlet. The authority hence can look into the request considering the impacts of the acquisition of the land on the land owners.

- Introduce developed Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) and communicate project plans in acceptable time frame to all stakeholders.
- Conduct workshops at community level to facilitate impact monitoring on the environment, socio-economic and socio-cultural aspects.
- Enhance security in project area through community policing in collaboration with local community members.
- Develop Information Education and Communication (IEC) programmes on the projects social impacts and train community members to conduct awareness and training programmes.
- Develop programmes to enhance cohesion between project employees and the local communities for example development of sports activities.
- The study found that the people of Abhirampara and adjoining villages of Meghalaya are dependent on agricultural and other commodities coming from Assam. Hence there is a possibility that once the facilitation centre is installed the goods coming from Assam will lead to hike in price. In order to address to this fear, the functionaries responsible at the facilitation centre should give more concessions or free of cost to vehicles carrying these essential commodities to ensure the stability in the price.
- To further improve the progress of work and to avoid any disturbance during the construction phase, the local community and local authority can also be included in the developmental process. This can be done by providing prior information to the local authority before work progress as well as providing employment opportunity to the local people.

Environment, Health and Safety Mitigation

- Employ trained and qualified machine handlers and drivers.
- Ensure work concerning construction is conducted by trained workers with strict adherence to safety standards.
- Avoid developing in areas of weak soil structure to avoid land slide

- Control soil erosion through timely clearing of excavations from project area; develop erosion control structure and excavate new areas only after finishing work at opened segments among other measures.
- Develop afforestation programmes in collaboration with the community members.

10. Conclusion:


The Government of Meghalaya's proposal to set up an Integrated Facilitation Centre – Entry and Exit Point at border villages has the potential to provide amenities erstwhile unavailable to the border villages. If the Integrated Facilitation Centre – Entry and Exit Point functions as planned, the border villages may benefit immensely from the project.

Based on observation and survey carried out with the respondents from Abhirampara and adjoining villages, the proposed project has a marginal effect on the community as a whole. It is seen as an initiative to improve the trade between the two states and increase the economy by opening up economic opportunities for the people of the adjoining areas. With certain functionaries in place, it would also address the issues of illegal immigration and land encroachment problems in Meghalaya. The infiltration and immigration problem is one major issue that causes great threat to the socio economic cultural and political aspect of the society today. Increase in population and shortage of resources, opportunities, change in demographic profile and socio political system as major issues arising out of it. The facilitation centre is therefore expected to be vital in addressing such issues.

The project is also expected to bring development to the area by creating an environment of market complex which will be beneficial economically to the people of the area.

Annexure 1: Notification of Meghalaya Institute of Governance as the State Social Impact Assessment Unit

Postal Registration No. N. E.—771/2006-2008


सत्यमेव जयते

The Gazette of Meghalaya

EXTRAORDINARY
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

No. 71	Shillong, Tuesday, June 30, 2015	9th Asadha, 1937 (S. E.)
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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 tasks 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.

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

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website: <http://mcdms.gov.in/gazette/gazette.asp>

Annexure2: Letter for conducting Social Impact Assessment at Abhirampara, for setting up of Integrated Facilitation Centre cum Entry and Exit Point at Abhirampara.

14/07/16

23

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
REVENUE & DISASTER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

No.RDA.104/2015/24

Dated Shillong, the 8th July, 2016.

From: Shri B Hajong, MCS,
Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Revenue & Disaster Management Department.

To: The Officer on Special Duty to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Meghalaya Institute of Governance,
Lumpyngad Cottage,
Bishop Cotton Road, Shillong.

Subject: Integrated Facilitation Centres for Entry & Exit Point at Abhirampara in
West Garo Hills District, Tura.

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, I am directed to request you to kindly submit the Draft Social Impact Assessment Report & Social Impact Management Plan in a single document for the project construction of Facilitation Centre at Abhirampara in West Garo Hills District, Tura at the earliest. It is to be impressed upon here that Under Section 4(2) of RFCT-LARR Act, 2013, The Social Impact Assessment Study has to be completed within a period of 6(six) months as per the date of its commencement.

Yours faithfully,

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

Memo.No.RDA.104/2015/24-A

Dated Shillong, the 8th July, 2016.

Copy to the Executive Director, Meghalaya Institute of Governance Shillong for information and necessary action.

By Order etc.,

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

cdana

Annexure 3: Public notice for conducting Public Hearing at Loskorpara L.P School, Abhirampara.



Meghalaya Institute of Governance (MIG)

Lumpyngnged Cottage, Bishop Cotton Road
Shillong- 793001, Meghalaya

Email: migshillong@gmail.com

No: MIG155/2016/390

Dated: 16th June 2016

Public Notice

The Meghalaya Institute of Governance has been notified as the State Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Unit to conduct Social Impact Assessment Study for acquisition of land measuring an area of approximately 32426.89 Sq.mt (Exit Point and Exit Point) at Abhirampara, West Garo Hills District for the purpose of setting up proposed Facilitation Centre.

In connection with this, a Public Hearing will be held at Loskorpara L.P. school, Abhirampara in West Garo Hills district at 10:00 am on the 30th of June, 2016.

All interested persons are invited to attend the said Public Hearing to express their claims/objections/ suggestion, if any, on the proposal.

Dr. BDR Tiwari, IAS
Executive Director,
Meghalaya Institute of Governance,
Shillong.

Annexure 4: Statement of Land that requires to be corrected.

ANNEXTURE -4

Statement of affected area of land for sitting up of Facilitation Centre at Abhiramparam West Garo Hills.










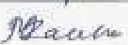




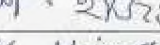
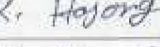
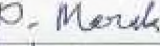



Sl. No	Name of Land Owner	Location	Plot No	Class of Land	Area of Land	Name of trees	Type of house	Sq fit
1.	Smt. Roshme Khakallari	Abhiram param	1,2	Foring	2-1-8	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.	Shri. Rahan Hajong	--do--	3	--do--	1-4-10	--do--	--do--	--do--
3.	Shri. Benidick Marak	--do--	4	--do--	1-3-18	--do--	Katcha house	216 sq fit
4.	Shri. Kamala Snowar	--do--	5	--do--	4-0-0	--do--	Nil	Nil
5.	Shri. Narod Mochahary	--do--	6	--do--	0-1-15	--do--	--do--	--do--
6.	Shri. Probin Bashamotary	--do--	7	--do--	0-4-13	--do--	--do--	351 sq fit
7.	Auto Association	--do--	A -- 7	--do--	0-2-10	--do--	Assam type house	--do--
8.	Shri. Somen Boro	--do--	8	--do--	0-1-19	--do--	--do--	--do--
9.	Shri. Komoleswar Hajong	--do--	10	--do--	2-2-17	--do--	Nil	--do--
10.	Shri Denesh Hajo	--do--	9,12	--do--	3-2-17	--do--	Assam type house	--do--
11.	Smt. Mikilla N. Sangma	--do--	11	--do--	1-2-10	--do--	Nil	--do--
12.	Smt Sonali Hajong	--do--	13	--do--	1-0-12	--do--	--do--	--do--

Total Area 20-4-9.

[Signature]
Sr. Assistant Settlement Officer
I/c, Re-Settlement Branch
Garo Hills Autonomous District Council, Tura.

Annexure 5: List of Participant's Present at The Public Hearing Held in Abhirampara on 30th Of June, 2016.

Attendance Sheet for the members present during Public hearing on Social Impact Assessment for Integrated Facilitation Centre cum Entry and Exit Point Held on 30th June 2016 at 10 : 00 a.m Abhirampara, Tikrikilla.

SL. No.	Name	Designation	Contact No.	Signature
1.	Smt. P.T.D. Sangma	EAC (Rev) Tura	8575526538	
2.	YVETTE P.C.G. NOMIN	TOURIST OFFICER, WEST GARO HILLS	9083621171	
3.	Shri K. Koch, M.C.S	Tikrikilla	8974101976	
4.	A. Q. Boro,	Tikrikilla B.M. Maza	8794153316	
5.	Sh. Bollen Sgma.	Ex. Service	9402311674	
6.	Mukilla Sangma	House wife	da-	
7.	Shri Nouvel Ch. Sangma	Ex- Army	9615216130	
8.	Mohitosh Koch	Stream Service	9402504582	
9.	Rashmi Khakhataung	Land Owner		
10.	Melai Rakha	Villager	9854785025	
11.	Jayanto Boro	Villager	7085393209	
12.	Sarmen Boro	Villager		
13.	OC R. R. R.	Villager		
14.	OC R. R. R.	Villager		
15.	Konash Hajong	Villager		
16.	P. Lina. Marak	Villager		
17.	Shrinley Sangma	Programme Associate (M.C.G.)	-	
18.	Raju Boro.	SIA, UNIT, MEDA	8994488885	
19.	Eleebond Sangma	SIA UNIT	8014618988	
20.	Prakim Sasemary	Land Owner	9436368227	

[illegible]

Annexure 6: Representation submitted by the Land Owners Committee of Abhirampara

To,

The Executive Director,
Meghalaya Institute of Governance,
Shillong

Through Proper Channel

Dated Abhirampara, the 30th June, 2016

Sub- Land acquisition for setting up Entry-Exit Point at Abhirampara – Submission of representation claiming adequate compensation etc.

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, we the following land owners have the honour to submit this representation relating to the government move to acquire our plots of land for setting up the proposed "Entry-Exit Point" at Abhirampara under the Tikrikilla Community and Rural Development Block, West Garo Hills District, Meghalaya to check the influx and illegal migration. The total area of the land proposed to be acquired for the purpose is approximately 18 bighas (32426.89 mt) within which our respective plots of land fall. The area of the land had already been surveyed and measured in spot several times by the officials of the Garo Hills Autonomous District Council, Revenue Branch and at the latest by the officials of the Deputy Commissioner, Revenue Branch, West Garo Hills, Tura, who who might have already submitted their report to the Government for execution.

That Sir, we welcome the Government move for setting up the said "Entry-Exit Point" as a part of the comprehension mechanism to curb influx and illegal migration into our tiny State Meghalaya. However, we the land owners, in view of the imminent and direct affect, would like to place our grievances before you by submitting this representation claiming adequate compensation, for the proposed acquisition of our plots of land under the following terms and conditions, without the fulfillment of which we are not ready and agreeable to part with or transfer our respective plots of land to the Government:-

1. The area of our plots of land proposed to be acquired is very much convenient and fit for settlement and business establishments as it falls under the growing Tikrikilla bazaar area along the northern side of the main NEC road, some of the land owners have already constructed dwelling houses and many are contemplating to settle their households by constructing dwelling houses there, as the locations of their existings dwelling areas are turning very congested due to the increasing number of population and the separation of some of their joint families. Now, if their plots of land in question are acquired by the Government, it would not be easily affordable to purchase alternative plot of land for settlement in convenient areas, yet at the present soaring prices of homestead land. Thus we want adequate compensation for our respective plots of lands before parting with or transferring the same to the Government.

Contd...

2. There are deserving unemployed children / wards in some of our families, therefore they shall have to be provided with Government job, at least one from each family, according to their qualification and fitness, if any vacancy of posts of various categories occur in various departments in connection with the setting up of the said Entry-Exit Point.

3. Other facilities to be available, such as business outlets etc. in the project complex, preference should be given to the persons from the affected families in selection and allotment of the same.

4. There are some mistakes of names of some of the affected land owners in the enclosed Annexure - should be corrected properly.

Under the aforesaid circumstances, we would like to urge upon to kindly take necessary steps for fulfilment of our terms and conditions on our claims before the parting with or transferring our respective plots of land to the Government.

Your kind consideration and necessary action is highly solicited.

Copy forwarded for favour of their kind information and necessary action to :-

Yours faithfully,

1. The Deputy commissioner,
West Garo Hills, Tura.
2. The Superintendent of Police,
West Garo Hills, Tura.
3. The CEM, GADC, Tura.
4. The Under Secretary, Govt. of Meghalaya,
Revenue and Disaster Management Deptt,
Shillong.
5. The Under Secretary, Govt of Meghalaya,
Forest and Environment Deptt, Shillong.
6. The Under Secretary Govt. of Meghalaya,
Tourism Deptt, Shillong.
7. The Block Development Officer,
Tikrikilla, West Garo Hills.
8. The Gaonbura / Nokma,
Abhirampara Village, West Garo Hills.

1. Smt. Rashmi Khakhalary:- *Rashmi Khakhalary*
 2. Shri Rohen Hajong:- *362215*
 3. Shri Benedick Marak *Mofin Sangma*
 4. Shri Komoleswar Hajong *Komolajit Hajong*
 5. Secretary, Auto Association:- *Sy. Boro Sangma*
 6. Shri Somen Boro:- *Somen Boro*
 7. Shri Dinesh Hajong:- *Dina Sh Hajong*
 8. Smt. *Michilla* N. Sangma *Michilla N. Sangma*
 9. Smt. Sonali Hajong *Sonali Hajong*
 10. Shri Prabir Basmahary *Prabir Basmahary*
- Land Owners, Abhirampara area
P.O. & P.S. Tikrikilla
West Garo Hills, Meghalaya

Annexure 7: Land Statement prepared by the Land Owners Committee

Actual position of the plots of land of land owners prepared to acquire the
 Settling up Entry-Exit Point at Alhinhampass, West Hano Hills which should be
 converted properly to avoid problem afterwards.

Sr. No.	Name of Land Owner	Location	Plot No.	Class of land	Area of Land	Name of trees	Type of House	Sq. ft.	Remarks
1.	Smt. Rashmi Thachakary	Mathuram Para	1, 2	Farming	2-1-8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Suitable for settlement and business activities
2.	Shri Braham Hajong	-do-	3	-do-	1-4-10	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
3.	" Benedict Marak	-do-	4	-do-	1-3-18	-do-	Katoka house	216 Sq. ft.	-do-
4.	" Komaleswar Hajong	-do-	5	-do-	4-0-0	-do-	Nil	Nil	-do-
5.	Smt. Rashmi Thachakary	-do-	6	-do-	0-1-15	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
6.	Shri Prabir Basumatary	-do-	7	-do-	0-4-13	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
7.	Auto Association	-do-	A 7	-do-	0-2-10	-do-	Assam type house	351 Sq. ft.	-do-
8.	Shri Somen Boro	-do-	8	-do-	0-1-19	-do-	Nil	Nil	-do-
9.	" Komaleswar Hajong	-do-	10	-do-	2-2-17	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
10.	" Binash Hajong	-do-	9, 12	-do-	3-2-17	-do-	Assam type house	-	-do-
11.	Smt. Mithila N. Samung	-do-	11	-do-	1-2-10	-do-	Nil	Nil	-do-
12.	" Sonali Hajong	-do-	13	-do-	1-0-12	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-

— Prepared by the Land Owners.

Annexure 8:Semi-Structure Interview scheduled for Abhirampara Village Authority

MEGHALAYA INSTITUTE OF GOVERNANCE
Interview schedule for the members of Village Authority/Village Council

Place:

Date:

TOPIC FOR SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

Land acquisition of land for Entry and Exit Point and facilitation centre at Abhirampara.

Impact Assessment

- 1) How many people are involved in the land acquisition project?
- 2) What types of land has been acquired for the project?
- 3) What are the types of activities carried outside the surrounding proposed construction projects area?
- 4) What are the people's opinions on this proposed construction project?
- 5) What according to you are the problems that have cause the delay of the proposed construction project?
- 6) What are the problems faced by the community due to lack of an entry and exit point with the area?
- 7) How will this proposed construction project benefit the community as a whole?
- 8) What according to you are the problems likely to come up from this proposed construction project during the phase of its construction and after?
- 9) What according to you are the possible ways to address to problems likely to arise during the course of the project and after the project?
- 10) What are the problems you faced with the Assam police Outpost?
- 11) What according to you are the social fears that may prevent the proposed project from carrying forward?
- 12) Would you like to share any other opinion or suggestion on the proposed construction project?

Thank you for your time.

Annexure 9: Questionnaire for Indirectly Affected Respondents

MEGHALAYA INSTITUTE OF GOVERNANCE
Questionnaire for Respondents who are likely to be affected from the proposed Integrated facilitation Centre cum Entry and Exit point at Abhirampara, West Garo Hills, Meghalaya

Part A: PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENT (Indirectly affected)			
1	Name		
2	Village		
3	Age		
	a	18-35	
	b	36-49	
	c	50-59	
	d	60-69	
	e	Over 70	
4	Gender		
	a	Male	
	b	Female	
5	What is your highest level of education?		
	a	Illiterate	
	b	Primary (Class V)	
	c	Upper Primary (Class VIII)	
	d	Secondary	
	e	High School	
	f	Others	

6	Occupation		
	a	Farmer	
	b	Government Employee	
	C	Business	
	D	Student	
	E	Casual Labourer	
	F	Daily wage worker	
	G	Others	
7	Which community do you belong to?		
	A	Scheduled Tribe	
	B	Scheduled Caste	
	C	General	
	D	Others	
8	Religion		
	A	Hindu	
	B	Muslim	
	C	Christian	
	D	Indigenous	
9	Do you have a ration card?		
	A	Yes	
	B	No	
10	Your ration card is categorised as		
	A	APL (Pink)	
	B	Antodaya(L.Green)	
	C	Annapoorna(Yellow)	

	D	BPL (D.green)	
Part B: IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Indirectly Affected)			
1	Are you aware about the construction of Entry and Exit point in your Village?		
	a	Yes	
	b	No	
2	Do you travel into Assam?		
	a	Yes	
	b	No	
	c	Never	
3	How often do you go or cross towards the Assam border?		
	a	Everyday	
	b	Once in a week	
	c	Twice or more in a month	
	d	Never	
4	What is the primary purpose of your visit to Assam?		
	a	Marketing	
	b	Casual Labourer	
	c	Medical accessibility	
	d	Accessibility for education	
	d	Trading	
	e	Daily Wage	
	f	Others	
5	If yes, what are the problems faced by you?		

	a.	Unavailability of transport	
	b.	Payment made to people in authority	
	c.		
	d.		
	e.		
6	What is the mode of transport used?		
	a.	Public transportation	
	b.	Private transportation	
	c.	By foot	
7	Which route do you use?		
	a.	Village/interior roads	
	b.	Main state highway	
	c.	Other	
8	Do you face any problems while returning back from Assam?		
	A	Yes	
	B	No	
	C	Never	
9	If yes, what are the problems faced by you?		
	a.	Unavailability of transport	
	b.	Payment made to people in authority	
	c.		
	d.		
	e.		
10	Do people from Assam come to your village?		
	A	Yes	

	B	No	
	C	Never	
11	For what purposes have the Assam people come into the village?		
	A	Trading of Goods	
	B	Driving	
	C	Casual Labourer	
	D	Daily wagers	
	E	Others	
12	Have you faced any kind of problem with the Assam People?		
	a	Yes	
	b	No	
		Remarks	
13	What are your concerns when people from outside come into the village?		
	a.	influx	
	b.	Social Mischief	
	c.	Inter-marriage	
	d.	Safety	
	e	Theft	
	f		
	g		
14	Do you have to pay a fee for trading in Market?		
	a	Yes	
	b	No	
	c	Never	

15	If yes, how much and how many times do you pay?					
	a.	Once a month				
	b.	Every market day				
	c.	Annually				
16	Who collect this trading fee from you ?					
17	Do other people from other states have to pay a fee for trading in ?					
	a	Yes				
	b	No				
	c	Never				
18	How much do they pay for trading in					
19	To whom do they pay the trading fee?					
20	What is the main produce of this area ?					
	Is the produce exported out ?			Yes :	No :	Where:
21	In Flow of goods		From	Out flow of Goods		From
	1)	8)		1)		
	2)	9)		2)		
	3)	10)		3)		
	4)	11)		4)		
	5)	12)		5)		
	6)	13)		6)		

	7)	14)		7)		
22	What are the different sources of livelihood undertaken for your income ?					
	A	Horticulture				
	B	Piggery				
	C	Fishery				
	D	Dairy Farming				
	E	Others				
23	Income per annum					
	A	Less than Rs. 25,000				
	B	>Rs. 25,001- less than Rs. 50,000				
	C	>Rs. 50,001- less than Rs. 75,000				
	d	>Rs. 75,001- less than Rs. 1,00,000				
	e	>Rs. 1,00,000				
24	What do you feel about the construction of an Entry and Exit point?					
	a	Good				
	b	Bad				
	c	Okay				
25	How will the the market flow on setting up of E&E point ?					
	a	It will make it better				
	b	It will make it worse				

	c	No change	
26	How will it affect the relations between the people on both sides of the EnE		
	a.	It will make it better	
	b	It will make it worse	
	c	No change	
	d		
	e		
27	What according to you are the reasons for such feeling?		
	a		
	b		
	c		
	d		
	e		
28	What according to you are the ways in which an entry and exit point should function?		
	A	Check on illegal immigration	
	B	Check on illegal flow of trades and goods	
	C	Check on criminal intent	
	D	Others	
29	Will the construction of an E&E Point affect community life of the people in the village?		

	a.	Yes	
	b.	No	
	C	No Change	
30	Will the construction of an E&E Point affect the safety of the people in the village?		
	A	It will make it better	
	b.	It will make it worse	
	c.	No change	
31	What according to you are the problems that may come up during the construction work?		
	A	Non utilization of land	
	B	Environment problem	
	C	Resistance from people	
	D	Incompletion of work	
	e	Others	
32	What according to you is the problem that may arise after the construction of E&E point?		
	a	Traffic congestion	
	b	Noise pollution	
	c	Difficulty in registration for arrival and departure	

	d	Over payment of fee	
	e	Employment of outsider	
	f	Poor maintenance	
	g	Loss of good rapport on both side	
	h	Others	
	33	What according to you are the ways to address the problems?	
a.			
b			
34	What are your aspirations from the said project?		
	a		
	b		
	e		

Thank you for your time

Annexure10 : Questionnaire for Directly Affected Respondents

MEGHALAYA INSTITUTE OF GOVERNANCE Questionnaire for Respondents who are likely to be affected from the proposed Integrated facilitation Centre cum Entry and Exit point at Abhirampara, West Garo Hills, Meghalaya			
Part A: PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENT (Directly Affected)			
1	Name		
2	Village		
3	Age		
	a	18-35	
	b	36-49	
	c	50-59	
	d	60-69	
	e	Over 70	
4	Gender		
	a	Male	
	b	Female	
5	What is your highest level of education?		
	a	Illiterate	
	b	Primary (Class V)	
	c	Upper Primary (Class VIII)	
	d	Secondary	
	e	High School	
	f	Others	
6	Occupation		
	a	Farmer	
	b	Government Employee	

	c	Business		
	d	Student		
	e	Casual Labourer		
	f	Daily wage worker		
	g	Others		
7	What are the different sources of livelihood undertaken for your income ?			
	a	Horticulture		
	b	Piggery		
	c	Fishery		
	d	Dairy Farming		
	e			
8	Income per annum			
	a	Less than Rs. 25,000		
	b	>Rs. 25,001- less than Rs. 50,000		
	c	>Rs. 50,001- less than Rs. 75,000		
	d	>Rs. 75,001- less than Rs. 1,00,000		
	e	>Rs. 1,00,000		
9	Which community do you belong to?			
	a	Scheduled Tribe		
	b	Scheduled Caste		
	c	General		
	d	Others		
10	Religion			
	a	Hindu		
	b	Muslim		

	c	Christian	
	d	Indigenous	
11	Household Details		
	a	Total family size	
	b	Male	
	c	Female	
	d	Children (below 18 yrs)	
	e	Elderly (above 64 yrs)	
	f	Differently abled	
	g	Any other household income	
12	Do you have a ration card?		
	a	Yes	
	b	No	
13	Your ration card is categorised as		
	a	APL (Pink)	
	b	Antodaya(L.Green)	
	c	Annapoorna(Yellow)	
	d	BPL (D.green)	
14	What kind of house do you own?		
	a	Kutcha	
	b	Semi-kutcha	
	c	Pucca	
15	Does your house / Shop fall under the proposed site area	Yes	No
	Remarks		
16	Do you have a land of your own?		

	a	Yes				
	b	No				
Part B : Impact Assessment in the Proposed Land (Directly Affected)						
	Type of Land					
17	a	Barren Land				
	b	Agricultural land	Subsistance	Commercial	Both	
	c	Settlement area				
	d	Forest				
	e	others				
18	Property Characteristic					
			Pucca	Semi Pucca	Katcha	
	House					
	School					
	Shop					
	Place of Worship					
	Wall					
	Trees					
	Others Specify					
19	Relation to Property					
	a	own				
	b	Rented				

20	Land Ownership						
	a	Traditiona l					
	b	Leased					
	c	Free Hold					
	Remarks						
21	Number of years you have resided in this area ?						
	a	0-5	0-10	0-20	0-30	0-40	0-50
	Remarks						
22	Do you have an alternate land of your own ? **						
	Yes		No				
	If Yes where ?						
	Do you intend to resettle their ?						
	If No what are your plans for resettlement ?						
	Resettlement Preference						
	a	In the same district					
	b	near the present home					
	c	Not considered yet					
	d						
23	Do you feel the need for the construction of E&E ?			Yes		No	

	If Yes, Why ?		
	If No, Why ?		
24	How do you think the coming of E&E will effect your day to day activity ?		
25	what according to you are the benefit that you may acquire from this said project ?		
26	What are your fears from the said project ?		
27	What are your aspirations from the project ?		
28	Project Impact (Observation)		
	a	Relocation	
	b	Loss of Jobs/ employment	
	c		
	d		
	e		

	f		
Part C: IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Directly Affected)			
1	Are you aware about the construction of Entry and Exit point in your Village?		
	a	Yes	
	b	No	
2	Do you travel into Assam?		
	a	Yes	
	b	No	
	c	Never	
3	How often do you go or cross towards the Assam border?		
	a	Everyday	
	b	Once in a week	
	c	Twice or more in a month	
	d	Never	
4	What is the primary purpose of your visit to Assam?		
	a	Marketing	
	b	Casual Labourer	
	c	Medical accessibility	
	d	Accessibility for education	
	d	Trading	
	e	Daily Wage	
f	Others		
5	If yes, what are the problems faced by you?		

	a.	Unavailability of transport	
	b.	Payment made to people in authority	
	c.		
	d.		
	e.		
6	What is the mode of transport used?		
	a.	Public transportation	
	b.	Private transportation	
	c.	By foot	
7	Which route do you use?		
	a.	Village/interior roads	
	b.	Main state highway	
	c.	Other	
8	Do you face any problems while returning back from Assam?		
	a	Yes	
	b	No	
	c	Never	
9	If yes, what are the problems faced by you?		
	a.	Unavailability of transport	
	b.	Payment made to people in authority	
	c.		
	d.		
	e.		
10	Do people from Assam come to your village?		
	a	Yes	

	b	No	
	c	Never	
11	For what purposes have the Assam people come into the village?		
	a	Trading of Goods	
	b	Driving	
	c	Casual Labourer	
	d	Daily wagers	
	e	Others	
12	Have you faced any kind of problem with the Assam People?		
	a	Yes	
	b	No	
		Remarks	
13	What are your concerns when people from outside come into the village?		
	a.	influx	
	b.	Social Mischief	
	c.	Inter-marriage	
	d.	Safety	
	e	Theft	
	f		
	g		
14	Do you have to pay a fee for trading in Market?		
	a	Yes	
	b	No	
	c	Never	
15	If yes, how much and how many times do you pay?		

	a.	Once a month		
	b.	Every market day		
	c.	Annually		
16	Who collects this trading fee from you ?			
17	Do people from other states have to pay a fee for trading in ?			
	a	Yes		
	b	No		
	c	Never		
18	How much do they pay for trading in			
19	To whom do they pay the trading fee?			
	What is the main produce of this area ?			
20	Is the produce exported out ?	Yes :	No : Where:	
21	In Flow of goods	From	Out flow of Goods	From
	1)		1)	
	2)		2)	
	3)		3)	
	4)		4)	
	5)		5)	
	6)		6)	
	7)		7)	

22	What do you feel about the construction of an Entry and Exit point?		
	a	Good	
	b	Bad	
	c	Okay	
23	How will the the market flow on setting up of E&E point ?		
	a	It will make it better	
	b	It will make it worse	
	c	No change	
24	How will it affect the relations between the people on both sides of the EnE		
	a.	It will make it better	
	b	It will make it worse	
	c	No change	
	d		
	e		
25	What according to you are the reasons for such feeling?		
	a		
	b		
26	What according to you are the ways in which an entry and exit point should function?		
	a	Check on illegal immigration	
	b	Check on illegal flow of trades and goods	
	c	Check on criminal intent	
	d	Others	

27	Will the construction of an E&E Point affect community life of the people in the village?		
	a.	Yes	
	b.	No	
	c	No Change	
28	Will the construction of an E&E Point affect the safety of the people in the village?		
	a	It will make it better	
	b.	It will make it worse	
	c.	No change	
29	What according to you are the problems that may come up during the construction work?		
	a	Non utilization of land	
	b	Environment problem	
	c	Resistance from people	
	d	Incompletion of work	
	e	Others	
30	What according to you is the problem that may arise after the construction of E&E point?		

	a	Traffic congestion	
	b	Noise pollution	
	c	Difficulty in registration for arrival and departure	
	d	Over payment of fee	
	e	Employment of outsider	
	f	Poor maintenance	
	g	Loss of good rapport on both side	
	h	Others	
31	What according to you are the ways to address the problems?		
	a.		
	b		
32	What are your aspiration from the said project?		
	a		
	b		

Thank you for your time