

**PROPOSAL FOR DECLARATION OF BIOLOGICAL HERITAGE SITE UNDER
SECTION 37 OF THE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY ACT, 2002**

1	Details of the proposed site	
a.	State	Meghalaya
b.	Name of the property	Khlaw Kur Syiem KmieIng, Umkon village, Umling Block, Ri-Bhoi district.
c.	Exact location	Umkon village, Umling Block, Ri-Bhoi district.
d.	Maps/ plans showing boundary of area proposed.	Map Enclosed (Annexure 1)
e.	Area of site proposed for declaration	16.05 Ha
2	Justification for Declaration	
a.	What is the significance of the proposed site?	Biodiversity Assessment Report enclosed (Annexure 2)
b.	Why the declaration is proposed? Give justification.	The community wants the BHS to ensure enhanced protection to the existing biodiversity and for better management of the site. The 'Dorbar Shnong Umkon', the 'local body' concerned, has issued a 'No Objection' certificate for declaration of a particular forest area under their jurisdiction as the BHS.
c.	Threat if any (give details)	Felling around the proposed site.
3	Description	
a.	Present status of conservation	It is an old Sacred Grove with monoliths and religious spots. No rituals are presently performed. The forest is protected by the Clan.
4	Management	
a.	Ownership	Clan Forest
b.	Legal Status	--
c.	Agency to Manage the site after declaration	Durbar Kur Syiem Raid Nongtluh Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC)
d.	Name, Designation and address of responsible person for contact.	Shri. J. M. Syiem, Chairman, Durbar KurSyiem Raid Nongtluh BMC, Nongthneng village, Umling Block

		Mobile: 9862053805 email: marchbornsyiem@yahoo.com
e.	Sources of expertise.	1. BMC 2. Technical Support Group (TSG) 3. Forest & Env. Department. 4. NGOs
5	Factors Affecting the Site	
a.	Pressures on the site (Encroachment, Agriculture, etc)	Felling around the proposed site.
b.	Environmental Pressures	None
c.	Visitor / tourism pressures	None
6	Documentation	
a.	Photographs (submit if available)	Submitted (Annexure-3)
b.	Existing site management plans if any.	No scientific management plan exists now.
7	Opinion of other concerned stakeholders.	The 'Dorbar Shnong Umkon', the local body concerned, wherein all immediate stakeholders are represented, has issued NOC to declare the area as BHS. (Annexure -4)
8	Details of disputes if any on the site (give details)	None
9	General remarks if any	The proposed area may be notified by the State Government as BHS under section 37 of the Biodiversity Act.

Date: 25th January, 2017.

Place: Shillong.


Signature & Seal Secretary
 Meghalaya Biodiversity Board
 Sylvan House, Lower Lachumiere
 Shillong - 793001

Name: D. Sathiyam, IFS

Address: Sylvan House,

Lower Lachumiere, Shillong-793001

Phone Number : 0364-2226403

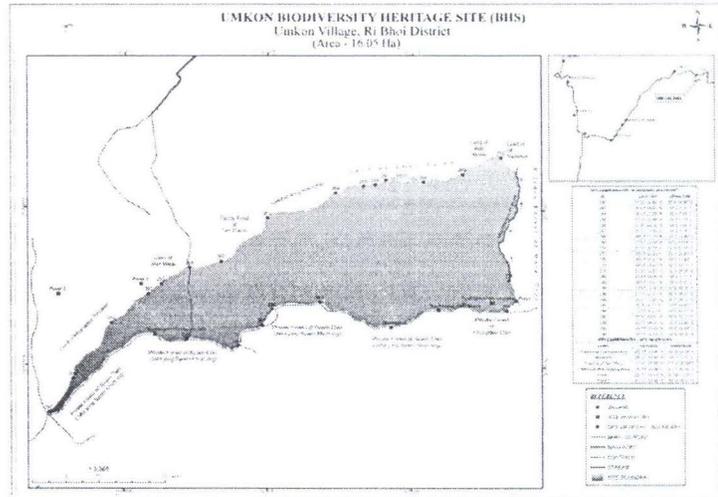
Email Address: sathiyamifs@gmail.com

Report of the Expert Committee Visit to Law Kyntang Kur Syiem, Umden Village, Ri-Bhoi on 12 November 2016 for declaration of the Site as a 'Biodiversity Heritage Site'

(Expert committee members: Dr. S.K. Singh, B.S.I. (Team Leader); Dr. K. Upadhaya, N.E.H.U.; K.L. Chaudhary, Lady Keane College; Shri Tambor Lyngdoh, Mawphlang; Dr. J. Lakadong, M.B.B.; Dr. S. Dey, M.B.B.; Ms. Eva Mawrie, Forest Dept, Govt of Meghalaya)

Salient feature of the proposed site:

The proposed Biodiversity Heritage Site is located at Umkon village, Ri Bhoi District of Meghalaya. The site is close to human habitation. While the periphery of the proposed sites near human habitation is exposed to shifting agriculture as well as settled agriculture, the area away from human settlement are still intact and represented by thick tropical deciduous forest. The trees are distributed in three different layers,



the canopy layer, subcanopy and the undercanopy layer. The canopy layer is > 20m in height and composed of trees such as *Amoora wallichii*, *Aesculus assamica*, *Engelhardtia spicata*, *Duabanga grandiflora*, *Magnolia champaca*, *Toona ciliata* etc. The subcanopy layer consisting of tree species of >8m height is composed of species such as *Actinodaphnae obovata*, *Alangium* sp., *Antidesma* sp., *Dysoxylon* sp., *Macropanax disperma*, *Ostodes paniculata* etc. The undercanopy is composed of the individuals of canopy as well as subcanopy and also species such as *Ficus hirta*, *Clerodendron* spp., *Grewia disperma* etc. Climbers (*Entada phaseoloides*, *Tetrastigma* spp., *Holmskioldia sanguinea*, *Lygodium flexuosum*, *Mikania micrantha*, *Mucuna* sp. etc.) and epiphytes (*Dendrobium* spp., *Bulbophyllum* spp., *Aerides* spp., *Cymbidium* spp., *Aeschynanthes* spp. etc) were common in the sites.

While on visit, interacting with the traditional village elders revealed that it was a sacred grove "Law Kyntang". Though the people still regards it as Sacred Groves but they don't do perform any religious practices in the forests. Rites and rituals were very common in these forests earlier and sacrifices of cattle, goats, chickens were offered. The rites and rituals were held for the last time was somewhere around the year 1970.

Among the animal species, the area has a good butterfly population. Red tailed squirrel was also spotted. But the most important animal observed was the Hoolock gibbon which is a very rare animal species. Thus the area is also an important habitat for this rare species. A short inventory of the plant species are provided here

List of plants found in the Law Kyntang Kur Syiem, Umden village, Ri-Bhoi District

S.N.	Scientific name	Family	Habit	Group
1.	<i>Actinodaphne obovata</i>	Lauraceae	Tree	Angiosperm
2.	<i>Aeridis sp</i>	Orchidaceae	Epiphyte	Angiosperm
3.	<i>Aeridissp</i>	Orchidaceae	Epiphyte	Angiosperm
4.	<i>Aeschynanthes sp</i>	Gesneriaceae	Epiphyte	Angiosperm
5.	<i>Aesculus assamica</i>	Hippocastanaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
6.	<i>Ageratina sp</i>	Asteraceae	Herb	Angiosperm
7.	<i>Ageratum conyzoides</i>	Asteraceae	Herb	Angiosperm
8.	<i>Alangium sp</i>	Alangiaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
9.	<i>Alchornea tilifolia</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Shrub	Angiosperm
10.	<i>Alstonia scholaris</i>	Apocyanaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
11.	<i>Amomum sp</i>	Zingiberaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
12.	<i>Amoora wallichii</i>	Meliaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
13.	<i>Antidesma sp</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
14.	<i>Ardisia I sp</i>	Myrsinaceae	Shrub	Angiosperm
15.	<i>Artocarpus sp</i>	Moraceae	Tree	Angiosperm
16.	<i>Artocarpus sp</i>	Moraceae	Tree	Angiosperm
17.	<i>Balanophora dioca</i>	Balanophoraceae	Root parasite	Angiosperm
18.	<i>Bauhinia sp</i>	Caesalpiniaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
19.	<i>Begonia sp</i>	Begoniaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
20.	<i>Boehmeria sp</i>	Urticaceae	Shrub	Angiosperm
21.	<i>Breynia sp</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Shrub	Angiosperm
22.	<i>Bryophyllum sp</i>	Crassulaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
23.	<i>Calamussp</i>	Arecaceae	Shrub	Angiosperm
24.	<i>Canarium strictum</i>	Bursaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
25.	<i>Carex sp.</i>	Cyperaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
26.	<i>Caryota urens</i>	Arecaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
27.	<i>Clerodendrum sp</i>	Verbenaceae	Shrub	Angiosperm
28.	<i>coelogyne suaveolens</i>	Orchidaceae	Epiphyte	Angiosperm
29.	<i>Commelina benghalensis</i>	Commelinaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
30.	<i>Cymbidium aloefolium</i>	Orchidaceae	Epiphyte	Angiosperm
31.	<i>Dendrobium chrysanthum</i>	Orchidaceae	Epiphyte	Angiosperm
32.	<i>Dendrobium chrysotoxum</i>	Orchidaceae	Epiphyte	Angiosperm
33.	<i>Dendrobium jenkinsii</i>	Orchidaceae	Epiphyte	Angiosperm
34.	<i>Dillenia sp</i>	Dilleniaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
35.	<i>Dioscorea sp</i>	Dioscoreaceae	Climber	Angiosperm
36.	<i>Diosporum cantonensis</i>	Liliaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
37.	<i>Dracaena angustifolia</i>	Liliaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
38.	<i>Dysoxylon sp</i>	Meliaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
39.	<i>Elatostemma spp</i>	Urticaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
40.	<i>Embllica officinalis</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
41.	<i>Entada phaseoloides</i>	Mimosaceae	Liana	Angiosperm
42.	<i>Entada sp</i>	Mimosaceae	Liana	Angiosperm

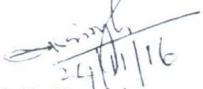
43.	<i>Eria tomentosa</i>	Orchidaceae	Epiphyte	Angiosperm
44.	<i>Etlingera linguiformis</i>	Zingiberaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
45.	<i>Ficus elastica</i>	Moraceae	Tree	Angiosperm
46.	<i>Ficus hirta</i>	Moraceae	Shrub	Angiosperm
47.	<i>Ficus subincisa</i>	Moraceae	Shrub	Angiosperm
48.	<i>Ficus</i> sp 2	Moraceae	Shrub	Angiosperm
49.	<i>Ficus</i> sp3	Moraceae	Shrub	Angiosperm
50.	<i>Ficus</i> sp3	Moraceae	Tree	Angiosperm
51.	<i>Ficus virens</i>	Moraceae	Tree	Angiosperm
52.	<i>Flickingeria fugax</i>	Orchidaceae	Epiphyte	Angiosperm
53.	<i>Garcinia</i> sp	Clusiaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
54.	<i>Glochidion</i> sp	Phyllanthaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
55.	<i>Goodyera</i> sp	Orchidaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
56.	<i>Goodyera</i> sp	Orchidaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
57.	<i>Grewia disperma</i>	Tiliaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
58.	<i>Hedychium</i> sp	Zingiberaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
59.	<i>Holmskioldia sanguinea</i>	Verbenaceae	Straggling shrub	Angiosperm
60.	<i>Illicium</i> sp	Schisandraceae		Angiosperm
61.	<i>Impatiens</i> sp	Balsaminaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
62.	<i>Itea macrophylla</i>	Iteaceae	Shrub	Angiosperm
63.	<i>Jasminum</i> sp	Oleaceae	Shrub	Angiosperm
64.	<i>Lithocarpus elegans</i>	Fagaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
65.	<i>Litsea laeta</i>	Lauraceae	Tree	Angiosperm
66.	<i>Litsea</i> sp.	Lauraceae	Tree	Angiosperm
67.	<i>Litsea</i> sp.	Lauraceae	Tree	Angiosperm
68.	<i>Macaranga</i> sp	Euphorbiaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
69.	<i>Macropanax</i> sp	Araliaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
70.	<i>Magnolia hodgsonii</i>	Magnoliaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
71.	<i>Michelia champaca</i>	Magnoliaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
72.	<i>Micropera</i> sp	Orchidaceae	Epiphyte	Angiosperm
73.	<i>Mikania micrantha</i>	Asteraceae	Climber	Angiosperm
74.	<i>Mucuna</i> sp	Papilionaceae	Climber	Angiosperm
75.	<i>Musa</i> sp	Musaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
76.	<i>Ostodes paniculata</i>	Euphorbiaceae		Angiosperm
77.	<i>Pandanus</i> sp.	Pandanaceae	Shrub	Angiosperm
78.	<i>Peliosanthess</i> sp	Liliaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
79.	<i>Peperomia pellucida</i>	Piperaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
80.	<i>Phlogacanthus thyrsoiflorus</i>	Acanthaceae	Shrub	Angiosperm
81.	<i>Pholidota imbricata</i>	Orchidaceae	Epiphyte	Angiosperm
82.	<i>Pallavicinia layelli</i>	Pallaviciniaceae	Terrestrial	Bryophyte
83.	<i>Piper</i> sp 1	Piperaceae	Climber	Angiosperm
84.	<i>Pothos</i> sp	Araceae	Climber	Angiosperm
85.	<i>Pterospermum lanceaefolium</i>	Malvaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
86.	<i>Pterospermum acerifolium</i>	Malvaceae	Tree	Angiosperm

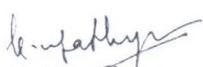


87.	<i>Rhaphidophora decursiva</i>	Araceae	Climber	Angiosperm
88.	<i>Rhus</i> sp	Anacardiaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
89.	<i>Sarcosperma arborea</i>	Sapotaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
90.	<i>Saurauia</i>	Saurauiaceae	Shrub	Angiosperm
91.	<i>Smilax</i> sp	Smilacaceae	Climber	Angiosperm
92.	<i>Solanum</i> sp	Solanaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
93.	<i>Solanum</i> sp1	Solanaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
94.	<i>Spilanthus acmella</i>	Asteraceae	Herb	Angiosperm
95.	<i>Syzygium cuminii</i>	Myrtaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
96.	<i>Tetrastigma (flat stemmed)</i>	Vitaceae	Liana	Angiosperm
97.	<i>Thunbergia</i> sp	Thunbergiaceae	Climber	Angiosperm
98.	<i>Toona ciliata</i>	Meliaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
99.	<i>Trevesia palmata</i>	Araliaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
100.	<i>Triumfetta rhomboidea</i>	Tiliaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
101.	<i>Vitex</i> sp	Verbenaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
102.	<i>Wendlandia tinctoria</i>	Rubiaceae	Shrub	Angiosperm
103.	<i>Macropanax disperma</i>	Araliaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
104.	<i>Engelhardtia spicata</i>	Juglandaceae	Tree	Angiosperm
105.	<i>Mimosa pudica</i>	Fabaceae	Herb	Angiosperm
106.	<i>Albizia pinnata</i>	Fabaceae	Climber	Angiosperm
107.	<i>Phyrynium pubinerve</i>	Marantaceae	shrub	Angiosperm
108.	<i>Costus speciosus</i>	Costaceaea	Herb	Angiosperm
109.	<i>Targionia hypophylla</i>	Targionaceae	Lithophyte	Bryophyte
110.	<i>Fossombronia cristula</i>	Fossombroniaceae	Terrestrial	Bryophyte
111.	<i>Solenostoma</i> sp.	Solenostomataceae	Terrestrial	Bryophyte
112.	<i>Mastigolejeunea indica</i>	Lejeuneaceae	Epiphytic	Bryophyte
113.	<i>Lejeunea tuberculosa</i>	Lejeuneaceae	Epiphytic	Bryophyte
114.	<i>Agaricus</i> sp.	Agaricaceae	Terrestrial	Fungi
115.	<i>Adiantum philippense</i>	Adiantaceae	Herb	Pteridophyte
116.	<i>Aleuritopteris formosana</i>	Pteridaceae	Lithophytic	Pteridophyte
117.	<i>Asplenium</i> sp	Aspleniaceae	Herb	Pteridophyte
118.	<i>Asplenium phyllitidis</i>	Aspleniaceae	herb	Pteridophyte
119.	<i>Drynaria coronas</i>	Polypodiaceae	Epiphyte	Pteridophyte
120.	<i>Tectaria fucipes</i>	Lomariopsidaceae	Herb	Pteridophyte
121.	<i>Pyrrosia lanceolata</i>	Polypodiaceae	Epiphyte	Pteridophyte
122.	<i>Pyrrosia nuda</i>	Polypodiaceae	Epiphyte	Pteridophyte
123.	<i>Pyrrosia costata</i>	Polypodiaceae	Herb	Pteridophyte
124.	<i>Thylepteris nudatum</i>	Thylepteridaceae	Herb	Pteridophyte
125.	<i>Thylepteris</i> sp	Thylepteridaceae	Epiphyte	Pteridophyte
126.	<i>Pteris biaurita</i>	Pteridaceae	Herb	Pteridophyte
127.	<i>Pteris cretica</i>	Pteridaceae	Herb	Pteridophyte
128.	<i>Pteris pellucida</i>	Pteridaceae	Herb	Pteridophyte
129.	<i>Selaginella reticulata</i>	Selaginellaceae	Herb	Pteridophyte
130.	<i>Loxogramme porcata</i>	Polypodiaceae	Herb	Pteridophyte

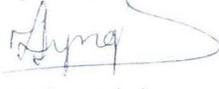
131.	<i>Lygodium flexuosum</i>	Lygodiaceae	Climber	Pteridophyte
132.	<i>Lygodium salicifolium</i>	Lygodiaceae	Climber	Pteridophyte

On the basis of above observation, the committee suggest to consider the Site for declaration of **Biodiversity Heritage Site** under the pertinent rules and regulations.


24/11/16
(Dr S.K. Singh)
Team Leader


Dr. K. Upadhaya
Member


K.L. Chaudhary
Member


Tambor Lyngdoh
Member

PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE PROPOSED KHLAW KUR SYIEM KMIEING BHS
UNDER UMKON VILLAGE, UMLING BLOCK, RI- BHOI DISTRICT.



A view of the proposed BHS from its periphery.



A view of the proposed BHS from its periphery.



Inside view of the proposed BHS



A view of the proposed BHS



Footpath, which forms the boundary of the proposed BHS, on one side.



The biggest of the monoliths found with in the proposed site, built by clan ancestors. Believed to be more than 500 years old.