

**Study of the scope of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) in achievement of the goal of 33% forest cover in the country, with special reference to the potential demand of and contributions by industries in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Orissa**

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The Planning Commission of India has targeted 25% of the area to be brought under tree cover by 2007 and to extend it further to 33% by the end of Eleventh Five Year Plan i.e. 2012. Mobilising financial resources for such a huge target is a great challenge, and requires involvement of all the stakeholders in achieving this national goal.

The involvement of private sector in forestry sector had significantly increased in many nations around the world during the last decade. However, in our country forestry professionals and government itself have yet to be convinced for increasing private sector involvement for the promotion of forest cover in particular for the rehabilitation of degraded forests/wastelands. In the above backdrop the main objectives of the study are to assess the range and percentage degraded lands (forest and non-forest) in the study area, to explore supply demand gap of industrial wood and to identify and analyze various issues pertaining to PPP.

The methodology involved the identification of main stakeholders and cases related to private participation in plantation activities in the M.P., Chhattisgarh and Orissa. Separate questionnaires were developed and data have been collected from major stakeholders.