

BHAMRAGARH FOREST DIVISION goes global with Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certification

The magical date of 12.12.12 became historical for Bhamragarh Forest Division as it is granted Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certification making its place on the global map. It is the First Government (Forest Dept) FSC project and third forestry project in India (Previous 2 being small private plantations raised by paper mills Total area: 11571 Ha)

Forest cover wise largest FSC project in the world.

What is FSC certification?

- UN Conference on Sustainable Development in 1992 (Rio Summit), concerned business representatives, social groups and environmental organizations got together and established the Forest Stewardship Council.
- Its purpose is to improve forest management worldwide.
- The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is a nongovernmental, Non-profit organization that promotes management of the world's forest
- The responsible management of the world's forests.
Established in 1993 as a response to concerns over global deforestation
- FSC logo is the guarantee that it has come from responsibly managed & sustainable forests that maintain the highest environmental & social standards.
- 50% of paper industry in U.K. is FSC certified and other international companies are using FSC certified wood / pulp and recycled content to manufacture paper and paper products
- Presently most of countries are allowing only FSC certified products
- Almost all European countries are signatories
- Need of the hour is to keep pace with the worldwide progress and go for FSC certification.

Why Bhamragarh Forest Division?

- Largest Forest Division in India having 3677.32 Sq kms of Forest cover, with Largest (88%) Bamboo area.
- On the instructions of MOEF, NMBA identified Bhamragarh Forest Division and started the certification process
- **First Government (Forest Dept) FSC project in India** and **Third project in India** (Previous 2 being small private plantations raised by paper mills Total area: 11571 Ha)
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How Bhamragarh Forest Division is getting benefited?

- Timber Firewood Bamboo & other MFP including Honey from Bhamragarh Forest Division will be *FSC certified*
- Products from forest produce such as paper, articles made from bamboo etc. will also be *FSC certified*
- European countries being signatory to FSC, accept only *FSC certified* product
- Lot of demand for *FSC certified* produce from Bhamragarh Forest Division by exporters
- Increase socio-economical status of the people residing in the area
- Maintaining FSC standard will enhance efficiency and raise the standard

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