

SECONDARY MANAGEMENT OF BAMBOO AT SOIL CONSERVATION UNIT CHIRAK

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Bamboo a woody grass of *Poaceace* family is an important non wood forest produce labelled as green gold and traditionally considered as poor man's wood. It is one of the many sustainable non wood resources that can generate income for a large forest rural population. The cultivation of bamboo as a wood substitute helps to offset depletion of forest. Bamboo is used as structural and shuttering material in building, for bamboo furniture, in weaving and paper industry etc.



The Bamboo Plantation unit with an area of about 96 hectares at Chirak falling in Purmandal Soil Conservation Zone in Samba District was established in the year 1986-87. Now the Department of Soil Conservation has started the Secondary Management of Bamboo clumps with the following objectives:

- ❖ To maintain the health of bamboo crop by way of Silvicultural management.
- ❖ To harvest the good quality bamboos that will fetch revenue for the Government.
- ❖ To improve the livelihood of the local people through generation of man-days and promote cottage industries.
- ❖ There are many Plantation units of the department with bamboo crops which requires secondary management. The pilot project can form the basis for managing such units.

In the Pilot Management Study about 200 bamboo clumps in a compact Zone has been identified out of a total of about 8500 clumps at Chirak Soil Conservation Unit. Since there was no management over the last twenty years, the bamboo culms are mostly in twisted and entangled form, thus requiring more intensive management. About 5000 culms of bamboo shall be required to be harvested from the 200 identified clumps. The harvested culms are also being treated and straightened in kilns with the aim to fetch better revenue than selling untreated culms. The finished bamboo shall be put to sale through Open Auction for which wide publicity shall be made through print media as well.

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1. HARVESTING OF BAMBOO CLUMPS:



2. SEASONING IN KILN:



3. STRAIGHTENING OF CLUMPS:



4. INSPECTION BY SENIOR OFFICERS:



==THANKS FOR KEEN INTEREST==