

## **The Asia – pacific’s First VCS - Carbon trading Forestry project, successfully taken up by an Indian Corporate**

As Prakash Industries Limited (PIL) has been expanding its business operation for the last few years while, continuously reinforcing its Social responsibility for the Nation as a whole.

The Company has always been deeply apprehensive about the dwindling scenario of the forests, in particular vis-à-vis its gradual toll in the form of rising wastelands, the climatic auguries and the environmental imbalance.

As a matter of fact, the Company through its continuous efforts has successfully managed to initiate an extensive Afforestation / Reforestation project on the degraded lands, of the state of Chhattisgarh through, its group companies, to mitigate the Climate Change & benefit the society, as a whole. The primary objective of this project is to redevelop forests, with the aim of restoring the environmental balance and also provide economic and social benefits to the people living around the region.

The plantation project of the company has not only generated rural employment but also has been a good source of Fuel wood for the rural masses & Fodder for the cattle populations in the deprived rural areas while, supporting the cause of the Wood based Industries through Timber wood generation, time to time as well. This project has already been certified as – **(i) the “World’s SECOND” CCBA (Gold category Forestry project, in its own category), in accordance with the United Nation’s norms mitigating the Climate Change and, (ii) has also earned a reputation of being the “Asia Pacific’s FIRST ARR (Afforestation, Reforestation and Revegetation) project, under the VCS program of an International VCSA.** The other intangible benefits being derived out of the same project are – (i) Rain water harvesting (ii) Replenishment of the underground water regime (iii) enhancement of the micro flora-fauna (iv) Soil-Moisture conservation (v) Creation of an Environment awareness / Watershed / Land use management &; (vi) the Micro climatic changes of the nearby areas etc.

The company intends to ameliorate 1000 hectares of Wasteland, as per its ambitious perceptive with the primary objective to – Ameliorate the Wastelands aspiring to mitigate the Environmental degradation while reducing the varied biotic pressures over the outstanding conventional forest areas vis - a - vis humanizing the rural Socio-economics of the inhabitants of the Company’s project areas.

The efforts of M/s. Prakash Industries Limited, in the highly specialized sphere of Carbon trading, in a unique category of Reforestation of the private Wastelands, are commendable and aspiring for many others to follow.