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The present situation and issues of Joint Forest Management (JFM) in India

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In India, after the continuing forest loss, the Joint Forest Management (JFM) began in the 1990s. In the early 1980s the rate of forest cover fell to 10%, and it has recovered to over 20% in the 20 years. JFM is one type of Participatory Forestry spread all over the world, which has been praised these achievements. But, looking at the quality of the forest, we can see the fact that the dense forest has continuously changed to the scrub. And we cannot altogether regard them as a good thing.

In this study, we would like to discuss about the current situation and issues, by comparison of the JFM between the northern India (Rajasthan, Haryana) and the southern India (Karnataka, Tamil Nadu). In the south, we will discuss the relationship between the conservation of the dense forest and JFM at the southern part of the Western Ghats on the border region between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Karnataka state is the most advanced state of the deforestation. In the north, we will focus to the so-called the evaluation of the afforestation project. For more, we will pay attention to the features of the broader land use by dealing with not only forests but the *region* of including forests.

Keywords: Joint Forest Management, Deforestation, Rajasthan, Karnataka