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In this paper, the author attempted to characterise and understand the state of shifting cultivation, and strategy for improved management of resources in Central Eastern India. The practice is known as podu chas, dahja or dagi in the region. The relevant research information as obtained at CSWCRTI, Research Centre at Koraput (Orissa) has also been incorporated. A system of characterisation and grouping of hill slopes under shifting cultivation based on land slopes, soil depth, gravels, degradation and location is proposed. Sustainable production from the present day degraded shifting agriculture can be obtained by conservation practice in agriculture phase and restoration management of fallow phase