

## Press Note

### **Vedanta promotes dairy farming through advanced fodder cultivation techniques, across 20 villages in Karnataka.**

- Vedanta introduced BNH-10 (BAIFBajra Napier Hybrid-10) fodder cultivation method, benefitting over 160 families, across Chitradurga District.
- Fodder farming using BNH-10, to cover 24 acre area through plantation of 96000 fodder cuttings.

**Chitradurga, 12.08.2021:** Vedanta's Iron Ore Karnataka (IOK), under the umbrella CSR initiative that is, Alternative Livelihood Opportunities Project (ALOP) have recently introduced innovative fodder farming method across 20 villages from Chitradurga district in Karnataka. The program is conceptualised and implemented in association with NGO partner Bharatiya Agro Industries Foundation (BAIF), with larger objective to create the sustainable livelihood opportunities through promotion of dairy farming in the periphery. This advanced fodder farming method is likely to benefit over 160 families across Chitradurga bringing around 24 acre land under fodder farming.

Under ALOP project Vedanta Iron Ore Karnataka collaborated with NGO BAIF and introduced BNH-10 fodder variety to the farming community of Chitradurga .Company mobilised people, demonstrated BNH cultivation practices and provided the planting material to the farmers across all 20 villages. The BNH-10 is a soft succulent perennial type green foliage. It is a hybrid of Napier and BAIFBajra, which gives higher green biomass continuously for 3-4 years and could harvest 7-8 cuts in a year. Overall, in a year one could harvest 200 to 250 tons/ha/year and with respect to nutritive values, BNH has 9–10% of crude protein and has 60-65% of digestibility. This fodder variety has multiple benefits to the milch animal and it helps to significantly improve the milk yield.

Speaking about the initiative **Mr. Sauvick Mazumdar, CEO- Iron & Steel Sector, Vedanta Limited** said "At Vedanta, We are committed to the holistic development of communities around. Our aim is to contribute maximum towards Aatmanirbhar Bharat and nation building at large. In line with our larger goal, ALOP is a structured CSR initiative developed to create sustainable livelihood opportunities for the community across Chitradurga & periphery."

**Mr. Shivakumar HN, Panchayat Member, Muttugaduru Village** appreciated Vedanta Iron Ore Karnataka and quoted "I applaud Vedanta Iron Ore Karnataka for this unique CSR initiative. The ALOP project is helping people from Chitradurga by providing much needed assistance for generation of sustainable livelihood opportunities."

**Mr. Krishna Reddy, Director- Iron Ore Karnataka, Vedanta Limited** quoted "At Vedanta's Iron Ore Karnataka Division we believe Socio-Economic upliftment of the communities is at the core of our Business philosophy and our constant endeavour is to contribute maximum towards overall

development of peripheral villages. ALOP project is devised to boost livelihood opportunities in the vicinity and I am extremely happy to see the wider reach & higher positive impact of the project"

Iron Ore Karnataka Division of Vedanta Limited, is supporting communities through various high impact development programs including COVID-19 care initiatives. Recently company inaugurated two COVID field hospitals at Chitradurga & Hubli, adding 200 Bedded Medical infrastructure in the state of Karnataka to extend support to state administration for combating COVID.

#### **About Vedanta Limited**

Vedanta Limited, a subsidiary of Vedanta Resources Limited, is one of the world's leading Oil & Gas and Metals company with significant operations in Oil & Gas, Zinc, Lead, Silver, Copper, Iron Ore, Steel, and Aluminium & Power across India, South Africa, Namibia, and Australia. For two decades, Vedanta has been contributing to India's growth story, currently contributing 1 percent of India's GDP. The company is among the top private sector contributors to the exchequer with the highest ever contribution of INR 42,560 Crore in FY 2019. Governance and sustainable development are at the core of Vedanta's strategy, with a strong focus on health, safety, and environment and on enhancing the lives of local communities. The company has been conferred the CII-ITC Sustainability Award, the FICCI CSR Award, Dun & Bradstreet Awards in Metals & Mining, and certified as a Great Place to Work. Vedanta Limited is listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange in India and has ADRs listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

For more information, please visit [www.vedantalimited.com](http://www.vedantalimited.com)

#### **About Sesa Goa Iron Ore Business**

Sesa Goa Iron Ore Business of Vedanta Limited is engaged in exploration, mining, and processing of iron ore. The company was founded in 1954 as Scambi Economici SA Goa and acquired by Vedanta. Since then, it has grown to be one among the top low-cost producers of iron ore in the country. During 1991-1995, it diversified into the manufacture of pig iron and metallurgical coke. It has also developed indigenous and environment-friendly technology for producing high quality metallurgical coke. Sesa Goa Iron Ore also has a 60 MW power plant that produces clean power by using the waste heat recovery from its coke ovens and blast furnace gas. Sesa Goa Iron Ore operations in India are in Goa & Karnataka.

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