

Press Note

Vedanta pledges to plant over 50K saplings across Chitradurga, as part of ‘Sesa Sustainability Drive 2022’

- *Distributed 1100 saplings to its employees at Iron Ore Karnataka unit, school students, and villagers from Chitradurga district.*
- *Vedanta’s Iron Ore Karnataka (IOK) Distributed jute bags to its employees and students from nearby schools in support of the nationwide ban on single-use plastic from July 2022.*

Chitradurga, 15th June 2022: Vedanta’s Iron Ore Karnataka (IOK) division has recently launched ‘Sesa Sustainability Drive 2022’ to further strengthen ESG initiatives within operational area and among the peripheral villages. Through this initiative company aims at broadening its horizons in the field of sustainability through structured awareness programs and facilitate positive transformation among the communities around, for better & greener future. As a part of ‘Sesa Sustainability Drive 2022’, A weeklong celebration was organised starting from World Environment Day from 5th to 11th June 2022 in collaboration with Karnataka Forest Department and Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, which includes series of community outreach activities such as awareness sessions, plantation drives, field visit to local forests, distribution of eco-friendly jute bags etc. The Company organized a plantation drive and distributed 100 saplings to the students and staff at Sri Yoginarayana School Bommanahalli, along with Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) officials. Vedanta IOK also conducted an awareness session in Sri Dyamalamba High School Hireguntunur, followed by a plantation drive in the school premises in the presence of Mr. Vasanth Kumar, Range Forest Officer, Holalkere Range, Karnataka Forest Department wherein a total of 400 saplings were distributed to the students and staff. Further In the journey towards environment conservation, Vedanta’s IOK has pledged to plant 50,000 saplings in and around its operations by the end of the year 2022. The company organized an educational trip wherein the students were taken to local forests for plantation, followed by Mines visit at IOK Chitradurga and interaction with top management who briefed students about various environment conservation activities taken up by Vedanta IOK.

Various initiatives under ‘Sesa Sustainability Drive 2022’ were highly appreciated by school management, villagers, Parent- teachers association from the nearby communities and, employees & Business partners of Vedanta’s IOK.

Mr. Vasanth Kumar, Range Forest Officer, Holalkere Range, Karnataka Forest Department added, *“Vedanta has been the ambassador of corporate sustainability initiatives in Chitradurga and has undertaken various CSR programs for the benefit of the community. I would like to appreciate Vedanta IOK’s management for its efforts to promote sustainability in local villages. The Company’s initiative of encouraging students to collectively spread the awareness amongst their friends and family is really commendable.”*

Talking about ‘Sesa Sustainability Drive 2022’, **Mr. E. Prakash, Environment officer KSPCB, Chitradurga** said *“Sustainability should be a way of living rather than an act and every student should promote environment conservation in their villages. They must adopt to eco-friendly habits like reducing the usage of electricity, avoid usage of single use plastic and use public transport facilities whenever possible.”* Mr. Prakash also emphasised on addressing global warming and how afforestation could be a solution to reduce the impact on the mankind.

Mr. Sujal Shah, CEO- Iron Ore Business, Vedanta Limited appreciated Karnataka team for this unique initiative and said “The ‘Sesa Sustainability Drive 2022’ launched by our Iron Ore Karnataka team is an extension of our constant zeal to promote sustainability in every aspect of our operations and among the communities around. We are highly committed to continue our robust efforts towards adoption of best-in-class ESG practices and strive for the ‘Greener future’ through our target of 50K saplings plantation by end of 2022.”

On the occasion, **Mr. Shrishaila Gouda, CEO – Iron Ore Karnataka, Vedanta Limited** said, “*As a responsible Corporate, we ensure sustainable and safe environment for our employees, stakeholders, peripheral communities. Our efforts over the years, have subsequently ensured the healthy revival of environment through our structured ESG initiatives. We are sincerely committed to intensify our efforts to create better sustainable future for our generations to come*”

Vedanta’s IOK mining operations has been awarded 5-star rating by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) for its sustainable mining practices on multiple occasions and secured 5 awards at the recently held 20th Mines Environment & Mineral Conservation Week 2021-22.

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 and Namibia. For two decades, Vedanta has been contributing significantly to nation building. Governance and sustainable development are at the core of Vedanta’s strategy, with a strong focus on health, safety, and environment. Vedanta has put in place a comprehensive framework to be a ESG leader in the natural resources sector. Vedanta is committed to reducing carbon emissions to zero by 2050 or sooner and has pledged \$5 billion over the next 10 years to accelerate this transition. Giving back is in the DNA of Vedanta, which is focused on enhancing the lives of local communities. The company’s flagship social impact program, Nand Ghars, have been set up as model anganwadis focused on eradicating child malnutrition, providing education, healthcare, and empowering women with skill development. Under the aegis of the Anil Agarwal Foundation, the umbrella entity for Vedanta’s social initiatives, the Vedanta group has pledged Rs 5000 crore over the next five years on social impact programmes with a thrust on nutrition, women & child development, healthcare, animal welfare, and grass-root level sports. Vedanta, along with the group companies, has been featured in Dow Jones Sustainability Index 2020, and was conferred Frost & Sullivan Sustainability Awards 2020, CII Environmental Best Practices Award 2020, CSR Health Impact Award 2020, CII National Award 2020 for Excellence in Water Management, CII Digital Transformation Award 2020, ICSI National Award 2020 for excellence in Corporate Governance, People First HR Excellence Award 2020, ‘Company with Great Managers 2020’ by People Business and certified as a Great Place to Work 2021. Vedanta’s flagship Nand Ghar Project was identified as best CSR project by Government of Rajasthan. Vedanta Limited is listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange. For more information, please visit 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 two waste heat recovery

power plants of total capacity 60 MW 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.

For further information please contact:

Prasad Ajgaonkar

Dy. Head – Corporate Communication

Tel: +91 7798882898

Email: Prasad.Ajgaonkar@vedanta.co.in