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## PRESS RELEASE

### Vedanta – Sesa Goa Iron Ore celebrates Wild Life Week

**Panaji, October 07, 2016 :** Vedanta – Sesa Goa Iron Ore in association with Centre for Environment Education (CEE), Goa Forest Department and Botany Department of Goa University organized an ‘Orientation workshop’ on endemic flora of Western Ghats and released posters on the Wild life of Goa at Goa Science Centre auditorium. The program was organized as part of its Wild Life Week celebrations.

Mr. Ajai Saxena – Principal Chief Conservator of Forest lauded the efforts of Vedanta – Sesa Goa Iron Ore for partnering for a noble cause and appreciated the biodiversity study conducted by Vedanta. “The posters on Wildlife developed by Vedanta will surely help in raising awareness on Wildlife among the students,” said Mr. Saxena.

Prof. M K Janarthanam, Dean of Life Science Department – Goa University has pioneered the discovery of a new grass species endemic to Goa’s Western Ghats. The work is on the species named “Dipcadi goense” which is endemic to a region in South Goa. Prof. Janarthanam praised the efforts of locals as well as forest department in helping conserve the species.

“The posters are the outcome of the relentless biodiversity studies conducted by the Vedanta – Sesa Goa Iron Ore through CEE” said Mr. Jagdish Desai – Manager Environment, Sesa Goa Iron Ore. Mr. Desai presented the scientific process followed by the company in carrying out the biodiversity study. He said, Sesa Goa as a responsible corporate citizen and sustainable miner is contributing its bit to maintain the environment footprint. The Sankhali reclaimed mine is a testimony of the responsible sustainability framework we practice. To commemorate the Wild Life Week Vedanta – Sesa Goa Iron ore is organizing various activities”, said Mr. Desai.

The plant species ‘Dipcadi goense’ was distributed to school teachers and the posters on wild life were distributed to the students of various schools.

The programme was attended by Dr. Anil Kumar, DCF, Wild life, officials from CEE , Mining companies, Teachers and students from various schools across Goa.

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**Photocaption: (L to R)** Professor Janarthanam, Dean of Life Science Department – Goa University, Mr. Ajai Saxena – Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and Mr. Jagdish Desai – Manager – inaugurating the Wild life Poster.

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