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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Sesa Football Academy has a new Head Coach.**

Panjim, 7th August 2017: Vedanta Sesa Goa Iron Ore is committed to foster skill development through sports and the Sesa Football academy (SFA) has been doing this since its inception in 1999. In a step to bring in excellent coaching and take the academy to greater heights, 'Mr. Eduard Battle Basart' will be leading the academy as the Head Coach.

Eduard brings in expertise of international level with his experience as Head Coach Barcelona Football Academy, coaching Cyprus women first division players. He has also been Former Coach in Manchester United and FC Barcelona Youth Academics. Eduard was awarded the Best Coach Award for leading the Cyprus women first division players.

Sharing his thoughts, "I visited India 7 years back and fell in love with the place. India has lot of talent in football and I wanted to come back to work with these talented players. Sesa Football Academy is a legacy in itself, the players have immense talent and potential. Together we hope to achieve great things".

Speaking on the occasion, President of SFA, Mr. Annanya Agarwal said, "We are very excited to have Eduard on board. His expertise and coaching are very critical to our future plans. We have found the right man to put our vision into action and we are confident that Eduard shall be able to take the technical levels of our glorious academy to higher standards."

On May 09<sup>th</sup> this year, the multinational natural resources conglomerate, announced a strategic roadmap to actively foster skill development in sports across the country. Sesa Football Academy (SFA) has contributed immensely to the development of football players in Goa and has now opened doors of the academy to develop budding players in football from across the nation and Africa. The skill development model that the company has adopted is to scout young talent and hone them in the sport and equip them with sports related skills that could help carve professionalism. 22 boys in the age group of 14 – 17 have been selected

from Rajasthan, Punjab, Kerala, Manipur, Sikkim, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Telangana and Zambia (where the Group has its operations), apart from the 36 boys from Goa who are already being trained.

**About SFA:** Vedanta – Sesa Goa Iron Ore as part of its commitment to serve the community established Sesa Football Academy (SFA) in the year 1999, with the prime objective of nurturing young football talent from Goa. SFA is built on the reclaimed mine at Sankhali-Goa and is run on a residential basis and imparts systematic and scientific training and lays emphasis to develop the potential and grooms the youngsters to become full-fledged professional players. SFA takes care of the formal education of the trainees during the four year training period. Within a span of 17 years, SFA has made tremendous impact on the football fraternity in Goa and across the nation. Young football enthusiasts aspiring to become professionals show keen interest to join the academy. From the inception of SFA around 123 trainees benefitted from the Academy. The Academy is proud of the budding sportsmen who passed out from the institution and are most sought after with some of them playing for India’s senior team, I-League clubs of India and local clubs in Goa. SFA patronized and mentored the sportsmen even during the critical times of the mining ban.

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**Photocaption:**

**Mr. Eduard Battle Basart the new Head Coach of Sesa Football Academy.**

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Vedanta Limited is the Indian subsidiary of Vedanta Resources Plc, a London-listed, 6<sup>th</sup> largest natural resources company, globally. 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 is conferred with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) ‘Sustainable Plus Platinum label’, ranking among the top 10 most sustainable companies in India. To access the Vedanta Sustainable Development Report 2016, please visit <http://sd.vedantaresources.com/SustainableDevelopment2015-16/>

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