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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Vedanta Football Schools Launched**

Panaji, 9th October 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 reach out to the community and nurture the budding football talents, the first center of Vedanta Football schools (VFS) was launched today at St. Ann's School, Sirsaim. The event was graced by Mr. Sukhvinder Singh- CEO Sesa Football Academy, Mr. Brahmanand Sankhwalkar- Ex-India Captain, Arjuna Awardee, Mr. Eduard Battle Basart- Head Coach, SFA, Sr. Leena Mascarenhas- Head Mistress, St. Ann's School, Sr. Winnie- Head Mistress- St. Clara School and Fr. Luciana Fernandes- Parish priest St. Christopher Church. VFS aims to inculcate the sports spirits and football skills in children aged 6 years to 14 years.

Speaking on the occasion, Sukhvinder Singh- CEO SFA, "Football resides in the hearts of Goans and the Vedanta Football Schools initiative will reach out to children to hone their sporting skills. The roadmap for the initiate is an expansion through community reach by way of establishing training centers across the state."

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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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**Photo caption:**

**Vedanta Football School launched at St. Ann School, Sirsaim.**

**About Vedanta Limited**

Vedanta Limited is a diversified natural resources company, with a market cap of US\$ 14 billion & US\$ 7 billion free float, whose business primarily involves producing oil & gas, zinc - lead - silver, copper, iron ore, aluminium and commercial power. The company has a presence across India, South Africa, Namibia, Australia and Ireland.

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/>

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)

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