

Press Release

4th Edition of Vedanta Women's Football League to kick off in style

- Over 100+ Women footballers from across the state will be in action during month long league tournament.
- Vedanta in collaboration with Goa Football Association (GFA) is all set to launch 4th edition of league which will witness the clash between 5 teams for the title.

Panaji, Goa 19th Feb. 2021: 4th Edition of Vedanta Women's Football league in collaboration with GFA, will kick start from 28th February at Duler football stadium wherein team Goa United will clash with FC Goa for the opening match. Over 100 + Women footballers will participate for the league playing for 5 top class teams participating in the league – FC Goa, Futebol club of YFA, Goa United sports Academy, Sirvodem Sports Club and Compassion Football club. The opening ceremony of the league will be held at the Navelim, Margao football ground in the presence of President – GFA, Executive committee of GFA, Senior Management of Vedanta Sesa Goa Iron Ore & all the team owners along with players.

Vedanta Women's League is the first of its kind platform for the aspiring women footballers from Goa to showcase their skills and provides opportunities to live their dream of pursuing professional career in football. Since its inception the league has provided platform to over 300 footballers and few of the star footballers emerged from the league such as Karishma Shirvoikar & Michelle Castanha are shining at National level.

Expressing his views about the 4th edition of Vedanta Women's League, **Mr. Annanya Agarwal, President, Vedanta Sports** said "At Vedanta Sports, we are fully committed to holistic development of sports across the country through our robust grassroot training programs. Women's football is especially close to my heart, and the very idea behind Vedanta Women's League is to expand the reach of our 20 year old football development programs to aid the development of women's football. The success of the league is evident from the fact that star performers of the VWL are representing the country at the national level. Our constant endeavor is to further strengthen our sports initiatives, in order to take Indian sports to greater heights."

Mr. Jovito Lopes, Secretary, Goa Football Association said" We are extremely happy to host 4th Edition of Vedanta Womens league, in collaboration with Vedanta. The league is gaining wider popularity since its inception and enormously helping towards development & promotion of Women football in the state. I congratulate Vedanta for partnering with GFA to drive this journey of football development across the state"

Vedanta Sesa Goa Iron Ore business started Sesa Football Academy (SFA) in the year 1999 at Sankhali and subsequently another academy campus at Sirsaim. Since inception the academy has groomed over 200+ footballers to develop them as professional football players. Most of the SFA Alumni are shining at the prestigious football platform with few of them represented Indian national team and many appeared in elite ISL.

About Vedanta Cares

Vedanta is committed to reinvest in the social good of its neighbourhood communities and the nation. The Group's flagship CSR project, Nand Ghar, is a network of model anganwadis where the thrust is on inclusive development of women and children at the grassroots level. The Group CSR initiative comprises of seven key verticals – Education, Healthcare, Water and Sanitation, Sustainable Livelihood, Skilling, Sports & Culture and Employee Volunteering. Vedanta Foundation, a philanthropic initiative of Vedanta Group is focused on skill development and vocational training programmes for the underprivileged to make them employable. A key healthcare speciality CSR project is the Balco Medical Center, a 200-bed state-of-the-art Cancer care hospital located in New Raipur, Chhattisgarh. The company supports grassroots level sports through their Football academies in Goa and Udaipur.

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.

About SESA Football Academy:

An initiative of SESA Community Development Foundation (SCDF), SESA Football Academy (SFA) was founded in 1999 for the holistic development of the local youths through football. The academy has created the conditions for discovering, creating and building talent for football. SFA does not restrict itself to football trainings but involves in a long term residential program which takes care of the formal education, skill development of the trainees during the four-year training period.

The academy has a strong focus on women empowerment through football. Since inception, SFA has trained around 200 footballers and has made tremendous impact on the football fraternity in Goa as well as across India. The graduates from SFA are serving in the national teams, Indian Super League (ISL), I-League clubs of India and clubs in Goa. 7 players have earned the national team cap and several players played the elite ISL .

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