

Press Note

Vedanta promotes agroforestry through 'green festival' at Karnataka.

- Vedanta Iron Ore Karnataka division, distributed over 400 saplings of various species at Hireguntanur village, Karnataka.

Chitradurga, Karnataka, 06.09.2021: Vedanta's Iron Ore Karnataka (IOK), under the umbrella CSR initiative that is, Alternative Livelihood Opportunities Project (ALOP) have launched 'Green festival' at Hireguntanur village. With an aim to promote agroforestry among the village community, Over 400 saplings were distributed among villagers in the distinguished presence of Gram panchayat members of Hireguntanur village, Dyamamma temple Sameethi members, school SDMC, representatives of Bharatiya Agro Industries Foundation (BAIF) & Vedanta- Iron Ore Karnataka Division.

ALOP an umbrella CSR project of Vedanta – Iron Ore Karnataka in association with NGO partner Bharatiya Agro Industries Foundation (BAIF), is focussed on the larger objective to create sustainable livelihood opportunities with major emphasis on giving boost to Agriculture and agri-allied livelihood opportunities. The unique concept of 'Green festival' aims at the promotion of culture of planting trees with community participation in order to make plantation, an integral part of their lifestyle in a way that it should become occasion like other festival for the community and enhance the green cover.

Speaking about the initiative **Mr. Sauvick Mazumdar, CEO- Iron & Steel Sector, Vedanta Limited** said "We believe in the holistic development of communities and our ALOP project is one of the important CSR initiative to drive our objective of creating sustainable livelihood opportunities for the community from Chitradurga and periphery. Our aim is to contribute towards the larger Goal of "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" through our structured CSR interventions with utmost focus on skill development & giving boost to Agriculture & Agri. allied activities among the communities around. "

Sharada N, Grama panchayath member, Hireguntanur village appreciated 'Green Festival' initiative and said "Vedanta Limited along with BAIF organized a Green festival in Dyamamma Temple, Hireguntanuru Primary School and Hireguntanuru Secondary School aiding in the afforestation efforts. During the festival the participants pledged to plant minimum of 10 saplings per person every year. Planting trees in our village will help in reducing air pollution and provide better watershed management. The event was very well organized and will bring greater impact in the community & environment. I thank them for such an event and request them to do the same in other surrounding villages"

Mr. Krishna Reddy, Director- Iron Ore Karnataka, Vedanta Limited quoted "At Vedanta Iron Ore Karnataka, our aim is ensure the Socio- Economic upliftment of the communities around and create the maximum value for all our stakeholders. Project ALOP is driving our endeavour to ensure the holistic development of communities around with utmost focus on creation of sustainable livelihood opportunities."

Iron Ore Karnataka Division of Vedanta Limited, is supporting communities through various high impact development programs including COVID-19 care initiatives. Recently company inaugurated two COVID field hospitals at Chitradurga & Hubli, adding 200 Bedded Medical infrastructure in the state of Karnataka to extend support to state administration for combating COVID. Vedanta Iron Ore Karnataka is reaching out the various section of society through numerous community development initiatives in the major thrust areas that is education, Livelihoods, skill development, Health & Sanitation, Infrastructure development, Agriculture.

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.

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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 a 60 MW power plant 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.

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