

Press Note

Vedanta's 'Gram Nirman' project aims at holistic development of Amona & Navelim villages

- Under 'Gram Nirman' project Vedanta is providing assistance to village community, for adoption of integrated farming approach along with Pisciculture, horticulture, with an ultimate objective to create sustainable livelihoods.
- Project includes Women entrepreneurship Development and Sanitation as one of the major focus area.

Goa, 07.08.2021: Vedanta's Value Added Business (VAB) introduced an umbrella CSR project that is 'Gram Nirman' for the overall development of communities from Amona & Navelim village. In the first phase of the project, the focus is on revival of Agriculture sector through introduction of Commercial integrated farming and creation of livelihood opportunities. Within 5 months after the launch, various community development programs were implemented under this project such as, providing 2000 high yield saplings of fruit bearing plants to 19 farmers, Awareness sessions on commercial farming, Advanced farming & Agriculture Assistance to over 45 farmers for cultivation of land this season, fencing support for protection of Agri. Fields, Women Entrepreneurship development, sanitation initiatives etc.

Project 'Gram Nirman' which is conceptualized and initiated for implementation at Amona & Navelim villages, in association with the NGO partner 'Vanarai', is based on multi-pronged approach with larger goals, to double the farmers income by 2024 through integrated farming, Development of Women Entrepreneurs and sanitation programs for open defecation free villages. Project is devised based on the structured baseline study & need assessment for both the villages followed by robust consultation process with village panchayats and community.

Speaking about the 'Gram Nirman' project **Mr. Sauvick Mazumdar, CEO- Iron & Steel Sector, Vedanta Limited**, quoted "At Vedanta our constant endeavour is to ensure Socio- Economic upliftment of communities around, through our structured CSR interventions. Gram Nirman is a unique CSR project for the holistic development of communities with utmost focus on creating sustainable livelihood opportunities, which is in line with larger vision of *Aatmanirbhar Bharat*."

Mrs. Nilima Gawas, Zonal Agriculture Officer, Sankhali appreciated Vedanta's VAB for introduction of 'Gram Nirman' project and said "We appreciate Vedanta –VAB, for introduction of Gram Nirman project for the long term benefits of the village community with focus on Agri., Sanitation and Women empowerment. We specially appreciate Vedanta's support for Agricultural assistance, which helped the farmers for improving Agri. yield."

Expressing his views about the initiative **Mr. Saptesh Sardesai, Director, Vedanta- VAB** Said "At Vedanta- VAB, We believe community development is at the core of our Business philosophy. Project Gram Nirman is yet another CSR Intervention for the long term sustainable development of Amona & Navelim villages"

Vedanta's Value Added Business is contributing to the Socio- Economic upliftment of the communities around through various CSR interventions such as Community Medical Centres, Mobile Health Units, Back to farming project, Utkarsh scholarship scheme, Infrastructure development projects etc.

About Vedanta Limited

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