

## Press Release

# Vedanta supports organic farming at Chitradurga; provides bio-fertilizers to over 100 farmers

- Vedanta IOK under 'Alternative Livelihood Opportunity Project' (ALOP) supported 100 farmers across 10 villages with bio-fertilizers to promote organic methods of farming.
- The bio-fertilizers contain microbes that ensures proper nutrition for the plants and improves soil fertility without any harmful effects on soil quality in long run.

**Karnataka**: As a part of CSR initiatives Vedanta's Iron Ore Karnataka (IOK) recently provided Biofertilizers to over 100 farmers from across 10 villages. The objective of this initiative is to promote organic farming across Chitradurga district and support farmers in enhancing agricultural yield in a highly sustainable manner. This unique initiative is a part of ALOP- the umbrella CSR project of Vedanta's IOK which is helping farmers to minimize reliance on harmful chemical fertilizers and motivating them to shift towards organic methods of farming.

The bio-fertilizers contain microbes that prevents pests, facilitates nitrogen fixation, and ensures proper nutrition for the plants without harming them or without having any negative affect on the soil quality. The microbes present in bio-fertilizers are very soil friendly which can multiply with moisture in the soil and stimulates the plant growth through synthesis of growth-promoting substances.

**Mr. Sujal Shah, CEO – Iron Ore Business, Vedanta Limited** said "We are committed towards holistic development of communities from the periphery of our operations in Chitradurga through our structured CSR interventions, and ALOP is one of the important wings of our CSR initiatives which is highly successful in positively impacting thousands of lives across Chitradurga through generation of sustainable livelihood opportunities. This initiative towards promotion of organic methods of agriculture is a testimony of our focussed efforts towards sustainable future"

**Mr. Chandrappa, Gram Panchayat Member of Bommavvanagathihalli** said, "I would like to thank Vedanta for their immense support. Biofertilizers are very helpful to cultivate vegetables and other agriculture crops with a good yield. Farming is how we make our livelihood, so any help in preserving and enhancing our ability to do that is very much appreciated."

**Mr. Shrishaila Gouda, CEO – Iron ore Karnataka, Vedanta Limited'** said "At Vedanta's IOK we are committed towards the holistic development of communities around and it is an integral aspect of our business philosophy. Through ALOP initiative we are consistently contributing towards creation of sustainable livelihood opportunities across Chitradurga. This initiative is yet another step in our endeavour towards sustainable future"

Vedanta's Iron Ore Karnataka has implemented various high impact community development programs in Karnataka under the larger umbrella of Alternative Livelihood Opportunities Project (ALOP) such as drinking water project, drought mitigation measures, Women empowerment programs, WADI initiatives, crop diversification initiative, clean kitchen chulas, etc. for communities.



### **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 and Namibia. For two decades, Vedanta has been contributing significantly to nation building. Governance and sustainable development are at the core of Vedanta's strategy, with a strong focus on health, safety, and environment. Vedanta has put in place a comprehensive framework to be the ESG leader in the natural resources sector. Vedanta is committed to reducing carbon emissions to zero by 2050 or sooner and has pledged \$5 billion over the next 10 years to accelerate the transition to net zero operations. Giving back is in the DNA of Vedanta, which is focused on enhancing the lives of local communities. The company's flagship social impact program, Nand Ghars, have been set up as model anganwadis focused on eradicating child malnutrition, providing education, healthcare, and empowering women with skill development. Under the aegis of the Anil Agarwal Foundation, the umbrella entity for Vedanta's social initiatives, the Vedanta group has pledged Rs 5000 crore over the next five years on social impact programmes with a thrust on nutrition, women & child development, healthcare, animal welfare, and grass-root level sports. Vedanta and the group companies company have been featured in Dow Jones Sustainability Index 2020, and was conferred Frost & Sullivan Sustainability Awards 2020, CII Environmental Best Practices Award 2020, CSR Health Impact Award 2020, CII National Award 2020 for Excellence in Water Management, CII Digital Transformation Award 2020, ICSI National Award 2020 for excellence in Corporate Governance, People First HR Excellence Award 2020, 'Company with Great Managers 2020' by People Business and certified as a Great Place to Work 2021. Vedanta's flagship Nand Ghar Project was identified as best CSR project by Government of Rajasthan. Vedanta Limited is listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange. For more information, please visit www.vedantalimited.com

#### 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 two waste heat recovery power plants of total capacity 60 MW 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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