

## **Vedanta Iron Ore Karnataka Celebrates World Environment Day 2024 with Sustainable Initiatives and Community Empowerment Projects**

**Chitradurga, Karnataka, June 10, 2024:** Vedanta Sesa Goa- Iron Ore Karnataka (IOK) celebrated Environment Week with a series of activities, including a mass plantation drive. Over 400 saplings were planted with the active engagement of more than 300 employees, business partners, and workmen of IOK. The senior management of IOK emphasized the importance of sustainable practices and nurturing the environment to ensure its preservation for future generations.

Contributing to #SustainableSesa, an awareness session on the environment was conducted along with a painting competition and paper-bag making session for the students of Bheemeswara Bala Vikasa School, Bheemasamudra. The event was anchored by Mr. Sakthi Venkatesh, Lead Sustainability at IOK, and Vedanta executives along with the school management and students.

Aligning with Vedanta's vision to attain carbon neutrality by 2050, IOK collaborated with Kuvempu University, Shimoga, by supporting their 'Susthira Ecocycle Green Club – Connecting Young Minds for a Green Campus' initiative by providing bicycles for students and staff, enabling them to commute within the campus. The event was attended by Prof. Sharath Ananthamurthy, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Kuvempu University, Mrs. Leena Verenkar, Head of ESG at Sesa Goa, Mr. Jagdish Desai, Head of Environment at Sesa Goa, and Vedanta executives, along with senior professors, faculty, and students of the university. IOK and Kuvempu University will work together on sustainability projects covering biodiversity, mining sustainability, research, public awareness, and student training.

**Mr. Shrishaila Gouda, CEO, Vedanta – Iron Ore Karnataka said, “Our mission extends beyond mining to ensuring the well-being of our environment. The Environment week celebrations is a testament to our ongoing efforts to create a greener and more sustainable future. Every sapling planted represents our hope and commitment to restore the balance between industrial progress and ecological preservation. The Environment awareness sessions and rally have contributed to enhancing environmental awareness in the region.”**

To further strengthen the commitment to environmental stewardship and achieve net water positivity by 2030, a medicinal garden and rainwater harvesting system were inaugurated at Indira Gandhi Residential School (IGRS), Kadleguddu. Additionally, a 25,000-liter capacity water tank was provided to the school, successfully meeting its water infrastructure demands. The medicinal garden features 8-10 species of native medicinal plants, contributing to the ecological balance of the region and enhancing the environment. Mr. E. Prakash, Environment Officer, Mr. Rajesh P., Dy. Environment Officer of Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) Chitradurga, school management members, Panchayat members of Kadleguddu village, students, and Vedanta executives were present for the inaugural ceremony.

**“Being eco-friendly and contributing to sustainability is the duty of every business in today's fast-changing world. We can observe sustainability in our homes through growing more trees, using water judiciously, recycling and segregating waste, and so on. We, at KSPCB, commend Vedanta IOK's initiative to nurture medicinal species and contribute to net water positivity through the medicinal garden and rainwater harvesting initiative,” said Mr. E. Prakash, Environment Officer, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), Chitradurga.**

Vedanta Sesa Goa Iron Ore Karnataka remains committed to its vision of achieving excellence in environmental management and contributing positively to the communities surrounding its operations. By celebrating Environment Week, Vedanta IOK reaffirms its pledge to work towards harmonious coexistence with nature, driving positive change for a sustainable tomorrow.

### **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 the 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 Anganwadi's focused on eradicating child malnutrition, providing education, and 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 Limited is listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange. For more information, please visit [www.vedantalimited.com](http://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. 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 and Odisha.

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