

Vedanta Sesa Goa@70: Enduring Legacy of Nation Building & Empowering Communities

Vedanta Sesa Goa, part of the Vedanta Group, a significant Indian iron ore miner since 1954 marked a momentous landmark as it completed 70 years since being established. In this duration the Company has seen numerous transitions from the Liberation of Goa to the liberalisation of the Indian economy and the changes in the mining laws & related operational environment. Successfully navigating through various challenges, the Company has been consistently contributing to Nation building, meaningfully partnered communities to foster a sustainable future, and consistently delivering value to stakeholders.

Founded in 1954 as the Scambi Economici SA with operations across Goa. Over the years, it has expanded into pig iron & metallurgical coke & its operations are in Goa, Karnataka, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Orissa. It has recently become the first company to operate an auctioned mine at Bicholim , Goa , a development which heralded the end of the decade plus long mining ban in the State.

Speaking on the occasion of the 70th Anniversary of Vedanta Sesa Goa, Mr Navin Jaju, CEO, Sesa Goa said “It is a matter of great pride and honor to be commemorating this momentous occasion. In the 70 years since inception, Sesa Goa has contributed to the growth and progress of Goa and the Nation. Seeped in the Vedanta philosophy of ‘giving back’, we take pride in playing our part in #TransformingCommunities through initiatives aimed at driving meaningful and enduring progress. As we go forward, we reiterate our commitment to work for the social and economic progress across our diverse geography & to redouble our efforts to usher in lasting prosperity for the communities.”.

With an extensive geographical presence across India, Vedanta Sesa Goa has touched the lives of countless individuals. Its operations have not only fuelled industrial progress but also contributed to community empowerment in the rural and mining belt areas, making it a catalyst for socio-economic change. The Sesa Football Academy (SFA) and the Sesa Technical School (STS) are the flagship CSR projects of the company and have been contributing to societal progress since 1999 and 1994 respectively. The SFA has provided over 180 plus youth from Goa an opportunity to realise their aspirations and to make a career out of the sport, with 11 having represented India at the International stage and the STS has nurtured and supported over 2000 youth to gaining employment in the industrial sector. Notably, despite numerous operational disruptions and even closure of operations due to mining ban, the Company has continued to nurture these two institutes and has even expanded their scope and profile. The SFA now fields a women’s team as well as runs football centres for girls and the STS has expanded its scope to include women technical graduates as well those desirous of taking up the Computer Operator and Programming Assistant trade.

Identifying the need to focus on farming communities, and to augmenting farm incomes, the Company’s project 'Gram Nirman' & the 'Alternative Livelihood Opportunity Project' project have, remarkably improved the lives of over 7100 farmers across states. Alongside, Vedanta Sesa Goa's has also focussed on fostering community well-being through its Project 'Arogya', which has benefitted more than 450000 people.

Vedanta Sesa Goa’s efforts are amplified by its parent entity, the Anil Agarwal Foundation (AAF), whose extensive social impact initiatives reflect the company’s core values. In FY 2023-24 alone, the foundation invested ₹437 crore in 153 projects, positively impacting 1.73 crore individuals across 1,200+ villages. Under the aegis of the Anil Agarwal Foundation’s flagship women & child project Nand Ghar, ~50 upgraded and modern ‘Anganwadis’ centres have been set up in Goa & Karnataka combined,

which provide essential services like early childhood education, nutrition, healthcare, and skill development for women. The AAF has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Sankhali Municipal Council, Government of Goa, aimed at making the state rabies-free and to set up an animal care centre.

Through Project 'Vridhhi', the Company has focussed on skill development, vocational training, IT education, and supporting meritorious students with 'Vedanta Utkarsh Scholarships'. So far, since 2018 ~80000 youth have benefitted from the computer labs and centres set up by Sesa Goa or through initiatives taken up jointly with the Govt. of Goa & has helped in creating a digitally aware and enabled segment of youth and students. Vedanta Sesa Goa, under the aegis of the AAF, is currently operating 10 computer centres and 14 computer labs across states.

Women empowerment has been an underlying theme for the Company's initiatives and . Vedanta Sesa Goa, has across its diverse geography empowered nearly 10000 women community members, through impactful initiatives under its Projects 'Vridhhi', 'Jeevika', 'Aarogya', 'Gram Nirmaan' & the Alternative Livelihood Opportunity Project (ALOP) and Project 'Aarogya'. Even at the workplace, Sesa Goa has diversity index of 25% with women manning positions at various levels including in core operations as well as security and other enabling functions.

In line with the requirement to adopt sustainable practices, Sesa Goa, guided by its Zero Harm, Zero Waste, Zero Discharge vision and commitment to achieving net zero emissions by 2050 or earlier, has been steadily adopting sustainable practices. It has helmed one of the most unique land restoration projects with the successful transformation of over 100 Ha of mine pits as part of the internationally acclaimed, Sanquelim Mine Reclamation Project (SMRP). The onboarding of the EV wheel loaders, the deployment of the Slope Safety Radars, the setting up of the Waste Heat Recovery Power Plant (WHRPP), and the introduction of bio-diesel are among some of the measures being taken to achieve sustainability goals.

The road ahead is paved with opportunities, and Vedanta Sesa Goa is poised to continue its journey of transformation. With a solid commitment to stakeholder value creation, sustainable mining practices, and inclusive development, the company aims to redefine the benchmarks of success in the industry. In commemorating this milestone, Vedanta Sesa Goa pays tribute to the communities, employees, and partners who have been integral to its journey. As it steps into the future, the company is determined to build on its legacy, creating a brighter, more inclusive tomorrow for all.