

## **Vedanta aligns with the Prime Minister's Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao campaign**

Observes National Girl Child Day in its locations

**New Delhi, January 24, 2017:** Vedanta Limited, India's leading diversified natural resources company, benefits young girls across the country through its community development programmes which are aligned with the Prime Minister's 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' campaign.

'Ilam Mottukal'— a girl child education project in partnership with 'Humana People to People India' in 86 schools covering Thoothukudi and Ottapidaram Taluka has benefitted 8,046 girls. It is run by the company's copper facility in Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu. This project aims to enhance the learning capacity as well as reduce dropout rate among the girl students in the area. To observe National Girl Child Day, the 'Sterlite Talent Hunt 2017' was organized wherein 3,000 girls participated.

'Subhalaxmi', the largest women based co-operative in the region with 2,720 members covering 52 villages, supported by Vedanta Limited, is supporting expectant mothers to meet their nutritional requirement during pregnancy. Subhalaxmi is also supporting girls with scholarships to pursue their higher education. By channelizing vegetables directly from farmers to consumers, the 'Veggie Kart' initiative was launched to generate a substantial surplus to financially benefit the Subhalaxmi cooperative.

Cairn India in Rajasthan is conducting a week long awareness program in the company's midstream Pipeline villages on Health & Hygiene, Safety and Girls Education. The program was initiated on 21st Jan with organizing student health checkup and awareness sessions in Government Schools, along with competitions for the students. This is a joint campaign with the Education Department, and partner NGOs. Awareness sessions are also held on 24th January, National Girl Child Day in Government Schools and Cairn Enterprise Center Sanchore.

The 'Vedanta Vidyarthi Vikas Yojana' (VVVY), a specialised tutorial assistance for secondary school students, is implemented in the core villages around the company's Jharsuguda facility in Odisha. In the 2016 state matriculation examination, the targeted

girls students enrolled under Project VVVY have achieved 100% pass percentage. 176 girl students from 6 peripheral villages are now enrolled under the project and availing free tutorial assistance.

Vedanta's iron ore operations in Goa conducted an awareness campaign on hygiene & sanitation for adolescent girls. As a part of the programme sanitary pads have been distributed among adolescent girls to promote healthy sanitary practices. As a result of these efforts, the company has reached out to 2,000 girls across 20 schools in the region this year. Sesa Goa Iron Ore conducted an awareness campaign on hygiene & sanitation for adolescent girls.

The Nand Ghar Project, a unique Public Private Partnership (PPP) with the Ministry of Woman and Child Development (MoWCD) to modernize the Anganwadi structure, aims to provide a platform for equal opportunities in education for over thousands of young girls across the country. Vedanta has committed to construct 4,000 modernized Anganwadis across the country. The initiative adds to the existing Anganwadi model of the Ministry's 'Integrated Women and Child Development Scheme' and this centre will act as a focal area for immunisation, gender sensitisation and maternal care. It also aims to enhance the learning environment through an e-learning module and skill enhancement program for women. The 'Nand Ghar' centres are proposed to be run as a shared space in which 50% of the time will be devoted to children's education and the remaining half will support women's skill development.

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#### **About Vedanta Limited (Formerly Sesa Sterlite Limited.)**

Vedanta Limited is a diversified natural resources company, whose business primarily involves producing oil & gas, zinc - lead - silver, copper, iron ore, aluminium and commercial power. The company has a presence across India, South Africa, Namibia, Australia and Ireland.

Vedanta Limited is the Indian subsidiary of Vedanta Resources Plc, a London-listed company. 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 is conferred with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) 'Sustainable Plus Platinum label', ranking among the top 10 most sustainable companies in India. To access the Vedanta Sustainable Development Report 2016, please visit <http://sd.vedantaresources.com/SustainableDevelopment2015-16/>

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.

For more information please visit [www.vedantalimited.com](http://www.vedantalimited.com)

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