

## Press Release

### **Sesa Sterlite Limited creates awareness for HIV/AIDS in Chhattisgarh**

**Chhattisgarh, India, October 22, 2014:** Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd (BALCO), a subsidiary of Sesa Sterlite Limited has launched an awareness campaign on preventing HIV/AIDS in the communities around its operations in Chhattisgarh. BALCO has collaborated with District AIDS Society and named the project 'Jagriti' which means awareness. Sesa Sterlite Limited has always been committed to the development of the societies which is a cornerstone of its business operations and has always accorded as much importance as the company's business activities.

The HIV/AIDS awareness campaign, 'Jagriti' has reached more than 2 lac people at district level since it began in 2006. More than 50,000 people from the high risk groups such as truck drivers, contract labourers, commercial sex workers, villagers, slum dwellers, migrants and employees were taught the importance of prevention over cure. BALCO also organized awareness sessions for 3000 employees.

"AIDS is recognized globally as a challenge to humanity and in India it is no different. We are happy to receive support from a corporate like BALCO which is actively involved to systematically work with vulnerable communities. Their sustained efforts are commendable," said Dr. B.R. Ratre, District AIDS Nodal Officer, District AIDS Control Society.

The awareness campaign was launched after understanding the need to educate the community on the consequences of contracting HIV. Social Revival Group for Urban, Rural and Tribal (SROUT) is the NGO partner of this project.

"The campaign was initiated against the backdrop of rising HIV-AIDS cases in the region. The programmes are designed to give the right information to the vulnerable groups so that they are effectively counselled," said Shri Dicson Masih, Director, Social Revival Group for Urban, Rural and Tribal (SROUT).

Over the last eight years, nearly 25 peer groups were trained to propagate this awareness campaign. "We have conducted counselling sessions across the wide section of the community including schools, colleges and our employees to ensure that they are aware of repercussions of contracting HIV. We

have created an HIV-AIDS policy in 2006 on the principles of non-discrimination, confidentiality and compassion in dealing with HIV affected people internally and externally,” Mr Binod Kumar Sriwastwa, Head Community Relations, BALCO, Sesa Sterlite Limited.

### **About Sesa Sterlite Limited (Formerly known as Sesa Goa Limited)**

Sesa Sterlite (SSL) is one of the world’s largest diversified natural resources company, whose business primarily involves exploring and processing minerals and oil & gas. SSL produces oil & gas, zinc, lead, silver, copper, iron ore, aluminium and commercial power and has a presence across India, South Africa, Namibia, Ireland, Australia, Liberia and Sri Lanka. Sustainability is at the core of SSL’s strategy, with a strong focus on health, safety and environment and on enhancing the lives of local communities.

SSL is a subsidiary of Vedanta Resources Plc, a London-listed company. SSL is listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange in India and has ADRs listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

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financial and metals markets including the London Metal Exchange, fluctuations in interest and or exchange rates and metal prices; from future integration of acquired businesses; and from numerous other matters of national, regional and global scale, including those of a political, economic, business, competitive or regulatory nature. These uncertainties may cause our actual future results to be materially different that those expressed in our forward-looking statements. We do not undertake to update our forward-looking statements.