

## Press Release

### **Vedanta Pledges Support for Women Equality**

#### **Is a signatory of Women's Empowerment Principles (WEP) of United Nations**

**Mumbai, March 25, 2015:** Vedanta Resources, the globally diversified natural resources company, has become a signatory of the 'CEO Statement of Support' for the United Nations' Women's Empowerment Principles (WEP) - 'Equality Means Business'. WEP are produced and disseminated by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality, the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and the United Nations Global Compact.

The CEO pledge was signed by Vedanta's Chief Executive Officer, Tom Albanese, who commented, "Women account for about half of India's voting population. They are increasingly playing an irreplaceable role across society, in their contribution to the Indian economy, and community development. Within the Vedanta group, we are committed towards providing equal opportunities and as a part of Vedanta's Corporate Social Responsibility, we continue to provide platforms that empower women in our communities. To be associated with the cause of advancing women by the United Nations Global Compact, is an extension of our commitment towards a holistic development of communities."

WEP present seven steps that businesses and other sectors can take to advance and empower women:

- (1) Establish high-level corporate leadership for gender equality
- (2) Treat all women and men fairly at work-respect and support human rights and non-discrimination
- (3) Ensure the health, safety and well-being of all women and men workers
- (4) Promote education, training and professional development for women
- (5) Implement enterprise development, supply chain and marketing practices that empower women
- (6) Promote equality through community initiatives and advocacy
- (7) Measure and publicly report on progress to achieve gender equality.



Vedanta Resource practices and promotes equal employment opportunities. The company's Board has 13% representation of women and has set a target to reach over 20% by 2018. Vedanta has also empowered over 25,000 rural women through the creation of about 1,800 Self Help Groups in the communities, across the locations of its operations. Over 39,000 people benefited from Vedanta's Women empowerment, Entrepreneurship & Skill development initiatives that contribute towards the socio - economic empowerment of rural women and youth.

On International Women's Day, 8th March 2015, Vedanta group companies conducted a series of awareness programmes on health and nutrition benefiting over 11,000 women and adolescent girls in India.

The celebrations included 19 health camps in various rural locations around the business operations and 9 Mobile Health Units travelling in remote locations, with the focus of treating women and creating awareness on the importance of health & hygiene practices. The celebrations were across the states of Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Goa & Punjab in India.

The UN Global Compact is a strategic policy initiative for businesses that are committed to aligning their operations and strategies with universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. By doing so, business, as a primary driver of globalization, can help ensure that markets, commerce, technology and finance advance in ways that benefit economies and societies everywhere.

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#### **About Vedanta**

Vedanta is a diversified natural resources company, whose business primarily involves exploring and processing minerals and oil & gas. The Company 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.

Sesa Sterlite Limited (SSLT), formerly Sesa Goa Limited, is the Indian subsidiary of Vedanta Resources Plc, a London-listed company. Sustainability is at the core of SSLT's strategy, with a strong focus on health, safety and environment and on enhancing the lives of local communities. SSLT 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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This press release contains “forward-looking statements” - that is, statements related to future, not past, events. In this context, forward-looking statements often address our expected future business and financial performance, and often contain words such as “expects,” “anticipates,” “intends,” “plans,” “believes,” “seeks,” “should” or “will.” Forward-looking statements by their nature address matters that are, to different degrees, uncertain. For us, uncertainties arise from the behaviour of 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.