

Vedanta aligns with UN's World Water Day theme; 'Better Water, Better Jobs'

The company's Water Management technical standard is: REUSE, REUSE and RECYCLE to conserve water

New Delhi, India, March 22, 2016: Vedanta Limited, India's only diversified natural resources company, has developed a Water Management technical standard which requires each business to undertake water REUSE, REUSE and RECYCLING measures to conserve this precious resource. Most of the company's operational processes designed to be 'zero discharge', as the company continues its commitment to the United Nations' Water Day theme of 'Water and Jobs' for 2016.

"I am happy to share that water conservation and its management have always been integral to the decision making of all our new and existing projects. We are committed in our endeavor to ensure that none of the natural water sources are affected by our operations, and achieving zero discharge in all our operations through 100% recirculation and reuse," said Mr. Tom Albanese, Chief Executive Officer, Vedanta.

Vedanta's businesses have a Water Resources Management Plan in place to eliminate, minimize, mitigate and manage impact on water resources. This includes an obligation for all our subsidiary businesses to conduct a water-screening assessment to identify sensitive water resources, aquatic habitats and any known or suspected water resource constraints in proximity to each operation.

With 88% of its sites certified ISO14001 environmental standard, innovative solutions have been introduced at Vedanta to minimize waste and optimize efficiency. Most of Vedanta's operational processes have been designed to be 'zero discharge', where the generated waste water is treated and recycled for cooling and other applications. In addition to these initiatives, effluent and sewage treatment plants are installed at many locations for reusing water at primary locations.

Vedanta's Sesa Goa Iron Ore, Hindustan Zinc Limited, Cairn India and Sterlite Copper have met some of their water requirements through rain water harvesting. Hindustan Zinc Limited, BALCO and Sterlite Copper have installed the UF – RO waster recovery plant, utilizing the utility water and thus reducing overall fresh water consumption.

Konkola Copper Mines, Hindustan Zinc, Aluminium business in Jharsuguda, BALCO and Zinc International carried out the water audit internally and replaced/repared defects in the reticulation system leakages and overflows (process losses). The estimated savings is almost 140,000 cubic meters. Process and technological interventions like increasing recycling of raw water and waste water, provision of spray water pumping arrangement to raw water reservoir at BALCO, TSPL, Jharsuguda, Skorpion Zinc, Black Mountain Mining resulted in saving of 50,000 cubic meters.

Cairn India adopted REED Bed technology for domestic waste water treatment and utilization of treated water in greenbelt development; Operational since October 2014; recycling of 4,000 Kilo Liters of sewage water/year. Cairn India works closely with the government and the regulators to ensure that data is transparently shared and that its activities do not pose any risk to the fresh water resource of the region, with the fresh water requirements of the plant being met by the desalination of saline water.

Vedanta's businesses work with communities to create awareness about drinking water and promote managing their water resources in a sustainable manner. Hindustan Zinc Limited is undertaking projects to ensure efficient utilization of water in agriculture through better crop practices and soil management techniques, which will not only result in enhancing of income of farmers but also preserve water. Cairn India has signed an MoU with Rajasthan government to provide clean and safe drinking water to nearly 800 villages in Barmer. This will be a game changer for the rural community which did not have any reliable water source.

Being a responsible corporate citizen with focus on sustainability, Vedanta is a signatory of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) Pledge for access to safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in the workplace. The WASH Pledge currently has 40

signatories globally, amounting to over 2.2 million employees covered by provisions for safe access to WASH at the workplace.

“I am glad that companies with operations in India have found the WASH at the Workplace Pledge as an effective tool for demonstrating their commitment to *Swachh Bharat*, and to play their part in the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals. It is heartening to note that businesses are driving the momentum for change, and working to ensure good standards of WASH for their employees” said Joppe Cramwinckel, Director Water at WBCSD.

According to United Nations (UN) data, almost half of the world’s workers, estimated around 1.5 billion, work in water-related sectors and those that ensure its safe delivery. The theme in 2016 — water and jobs — focuses on how enough quantity and quality of water can change workers' lives and livelihoods - and even transform societies and economies.

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, Ireland and Liberia.

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.

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.

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