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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Vedanta lays the foundation stone for ‘Nandghar’ in Goa**

**Panaji, August 8, 2016:** Vedanta – Sesa Goa Iron Ore has partnered with Directorate of Women & Child Development, Government of Goa to construct two modern Anganwadis – ‘Nandghar’, a Vedanta initiative to skill and develop the woman and children of the society. The foundation stone for the ‘Nandghar’ at Deulwada-Mandrem in Pernem Taluka was laid by Mr. Ramesh Shet Mandrekar, Ex-Deputy Sarpanch - Village Panchayat in the distinguished presence of Ms. Vijaya Verenkar, Child and Development Program Officer (CDPO), Ms. Tara Hadfadkar, Social worker & Panchayat member, Ms. Leena Verenkar, Head – Corporate Affairs & CSR, Vedanta- Sesa Iron Ore, Mr. Joseph Coelho – Head IOG, Vedanta – Sesa Goa Iron Ore and teachers and students of the Government Primary school. The foundation stone for the second ‘Nandghar’ at Zakem in Netraivalim will be held soon.

The ‘Nand Ghar’, a first of its kind Public Private Partnership (PPP) model, in partnership with the government has the potential to be a movement for a holistic approach towards child care and women empowerment. The land for the ‘Nandghar’ would be provided by the Education Department and the construction will be undertaken by MAAD Construction Private Limited.

“I am proud to be laying the foundation stone in the premises of the preschool I attended which incidentally is going to be Goa’s first Nandghar,” said Mr. Mandrekar, Ex-Deputy Sarpanch - Village Panchayat.

Speaking on this occasion Ms. Tara Hadfadkar, Social worker & Panchayat member said, “Just like the potter who shapes clay, the ‘Nandghar’ helps to shape the future of our children and we are extremely thankful to Vedanta for taking this giant initiative.”

“We are excited about this unique partnership with the Vedanta Group to construct two more ‘Nandghars’ in Goa adding to the four thousand planned across the nation. ‘Nandghar’ will be developed in some of the high burden districts where the Ministry is proposing to launch the ‘National Nutrition Mission’ shortly. The mission will involve more non-government partners contributing collectively to one common objective of eliminating malnutrition,” said Ms. Verenkar, Head – Corporate Affairs & CSR Vedanta Sesa Goa Iron Ore.

“The ‘Nandghar’ model will provide targeted delivery of supplementary nutrition services along with related healthcare services for both mother and child including skill training for women. She also stressed on the need of having toilets in ‘Nandghar’ for women to strengthen the Swachh Bharat Mission. Healthy children and empowered women will eradicate poverty and malnutrition, and make a prosperous nation,” said Ms. Verenkar.

Mr. Coelho, said, “The ‘Nandghar’ project aligns with our honorable Prime Minister’s vision and our commitment as a corporate citizen to the State of Goa. The ‘Nandghar’ centers are devoted to child education, women welfare and skill development.”

### **About Nandghar:**

Vedanta Group’s philanthropic arm the Vedanta Foundation has pioneered in the areas of child care. In collaboration with the Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India the Vedanta Group has come together to construct 4000 modern ‘Nandghar’ in different parts of the country. Since 2008, the Vedanta Group has been dedicatedly working on the creation of ‘Nandghar’ for providing supplementary nutrition, primary education and health to underprivileged children.

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**Photo caption:** Mr. Ramesh Shet Mandrekar, Ex-Deputy Sarpanch laying the foundation stone for Nandghar at Deulwada-Mandrem

### **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, aluminum 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.

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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