

**Press Release:**

## **Vedanta joins hands in Backyard Poultry Farming Project to support rural livelihood in Lanjigarh**

**Lanjigarh, Kalahandi District, Odisha; 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020:** Vedanta Limited, Lanjigarh, India's premier producer of metallurgical grade alumina, has partnered with the Backyard Poultry Farming Project, an initiative by the Government of Odisha to supplement the livelihood of local communities residing in the company's peripheral villages. As commercial activities across the country gear up in the economic revival phase, Vedanta is continuously making efforts to help families residing in and around its operations thrive despite the ongoing pandemic. Vedanta, under its 'sustainable livelihood' community development dimension, has initiated this partnership to positively impact the livelihood of the villagers, providing technical support and material assistance, to double their household income in the days to come.

Under the government run project, nearly 350 beneficiaries, selected by the Odisha Primitive Vulnerable Tribal Groups Empowerment and Livelihood Project (OPELIP) through the implementing agency Janasahajya, had received around 3500 chicks, 350 sheds, etc. However, lack of technical knowledge and adequate fodder had resulted in high mortality rate of chicks, and many households incurring losses. To address this, Vedanta Lanjigarh joined hands with Janasahajya. In association with Village Development Association and Kutia Kandh Development Authority (KKDA), Vedanta is providing high quality fodder to each household for their poultry. To strengthen micro-level implementation of the project, the company is providing technical support and regularly monitoring the poultry's health status.

**Speaking about the project, Mr. Rakesh Mohan, Chief Operating Officer, Vedanta Limited, Lanjigarh unit** said, "We have always strived to create and support sustainable livelihood opportunities in the regions where we operate, with a focus on inclusive growth. A significant endeavor in that direction is aiding last mile delivery and proper implementation of various government schemes on ground. Through the state government's Backyard Poultry Farming Project, rural families in our periphery are able to supplement their household income and we are happy to assist in that endeavor and bring about positive results. Entering the economic revival phase after going through a challenging situation, Vedanta stands committed to supporting livelihood and catalyzing sustainable growth of the communities in its periphery, while contributing to the national vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat."

**Recognizing Vedanta's efforts, Dhanu Majhi from Kutendeli in Batelima Gram Panchayat,** who is among the many beneficiaries of the project, said, "We are grateful to Vedanta for its efforts to augment and support the livelihoods of communities residing in and around Lanjigarh. The knowledge and support provided by the company has been crucial in helping us develop thriving poultry farms in our homesteads. We expect positive returns from the program and look forward to continuing this activity for added income."



Vedanta's social interventions in the domains of sustainable livelihood, women empowerment, quality education, health, water and sanitation, bio-investment and community infrastructure reach out to a total of about 60 villages in Lanjigarh and nearby areas, benefiting about a lakh people in a year. It empowers more than 3000 women from over 300 self-help groups (SHGs), provides healthcare services to about 60,000 people annually, gives educational support to about 3000 students, has planted more than 5.4 lakh trees in the community, and built 500 plus infrastructural projects at community level.

Vedanta is the largest producer of aluminium in India and remains the premier manufacturer of metallurgical grade alumina. The company operates a 2 MTPA (million tonnes per annum) capacity alumina refinery in Lanjigarh (Kalahandi district, Odisha), India since 2007 and an associated 90 MW captive power plant.

### **About Vedanta Limited, Lanjigarh Unit (Alumina Refinery)**

Vedanta is the largest producer of aluminium in India and remains the premier manufacturer of metallurgical grade alumina. The company has carved a niche for itself in the global aluminium industry with its superior product quality based on state-of-the-art technology. Vedanta Limited operates a 2 MTPA (million tonnes per annum) capacity alumina refinery in Lanjigarh (Kalahandi district, Odisha), India since 2007 and an associated 90 MW captive power plant. The refinery feeds Vedanta's aluminium smelters at Jharsuguda in Odisha and at BALCO in Korba, Chhattisgarh.

### **About Vedanta Cares**

Vedanta is committed to reinvest in the social good of its neighbourhood communities and the nation. The Group's flagship CSR project, Nand Ghar, is a network of model anganwadis where the thrust is on inclusive development of women and children at the grassroots level. The Group CSR initiative comprises of seven key verticals – Education, Healthcare, Water and Sanitation, Sustainable Livelihood, Skilling, Sports & Culture and Employee Volunteering. Vedanta Foundation, a philanthropic initiative of Vedanta Group is focused on skill development and vocational training programmes for the underprivileged to make them employable. A key healthcare speciality CSR project is the Balco Medical Center, a 200-bed state-of-the-art Cancer care hospital located in New Raipur, Chhattisgarh. The company supports grassroots level sports through their Football academies in Goa and Udaipur.

### **About Vedanta Limited**

Vedanta Limited, a subsidiary of Vedanta Resources Limited, is one of the world's leading Oil & Gas and Metals company with significant operations in Oil & Gas, Zinc, Lead, Silver, Copper, Iron Ore, Steel, and Aluminium & Power across India, South Africa, Namibia, and Australia. For two decades, Vedanta has been contributing significantly to nation building. Governance and sustainable development are at the core of Vedanta's strategy, with a strong focus on health, safety, and environment. Giving back is in the DNA of Vedanta, which is focused on enhancing the lives of local communities. Under the aegis of Vedanta Cares, the flagship social impact program, Nand Ghars have been set up as model anganwadis focused on eradicating child malnutrition, providing education, healthcare, and empowering women with skill development. The company has been featured in Dow Jones Sustainability Index, and was conferred CII-ITC Sustainability Award, the FICCI CSR Award, Dun & Bradstreet Awards in Metals & Mining, and certified as a Great Place to Work. 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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