

VALYOU

A VEDANTA ALUMINIUM NEWSLETTER Vol.1 2011



Emergence of Science Education Conference



SEL gets nod for commercial production



Vedanta's Education Initiative Scripts Success



Live Graciously - Vedanta Township, Jharsuguda



“ CEO SPEAK ”

Wishing you all a very auspicious New Year 2011. I am hopeful that this New Year will bring for Vedanta new scope for widening our sphere and resilience in our work culture.

We have begun this year on a positive note.

Considering the need for quality higher education at Lanjigarh and its peripheral areas we are planning to set up a Degree Science College at Lanjigarh. To initiate the process we organised a daylong Conference on "Emergence of Science Education" at Lanjigarh, attended by eminent scholars, students and professors from nearby colleges in Kalahandi and Rayagada. The upcoming college will go a long way in providing opportunities to young aspirants, interested in pursuing higher studies in the Sciences.

I am glad for the support of a large section of people from society who welcome such initiatives. Neither development nor the benefits to the people ensuing thereof be arrested because of pockets of resistance from some quarters.

Industrialization is a social and economic process. No industry operates only for the sake of return of Investment alone. The long term positive impact of industry can neither be ignored nor questioned. It is necessary on the part of policy makers to take a balanced view to the process of industrialization which will create jobs for a rapidly growing workforce in India.

I wish to congratulate the staff of the IPP team for their invaluable contribution in obtaining approval for "Commercial Operation Date" from Gridco Limited, a Government of Orissa undertaking. This will enable Sterlite Energy Limited to supply power to the state grid, making the state of Orissa power-sufficient.

We remain ever optimistic about future developments.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Siddiqi".

M. Siddiqi

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Vedanta Assures Quality Science Education in Orissa through Science College





To spread awareness about the importance of Science Education among the people in the remote areas of Kalahandi & Rayagada The management committee of upcoming Vedanta Science College organized a day long conference on "Emergence of Science Education" at Lanjigarh on 30th Jan 2011.

"Science education would not only help in getting employment but will also help improve the quality of life." said Prof. Arun Kumar Pujari, Vice-Chancellor, Sambalpur University during the conference. More than 200 students and faculty members from 15 colleges in Kalahandi and Rayagada participated in this conference.

The objective of the conference was to make the people conscious about the value of science education at degree level as well as to discuss about the proposed Vedanta Science College at Lanjigarh.

Dr. Mukesh Kumar, President and COO, Vedanta Aluminium Limited (VAL), said, Vedanta is committed to create a state of the art Science College that will promote quality science education in western Orissa". This can help increase technical manpower for industrialization in Orissa, he added.

As the local students of the region depend on Bhawanipatna, Rayagada and Bhubaneswar for degree level studies on science subjects, Vedanta Science College can make a valuable contribution to the local people around Lanjigarh, Prof. Gopabandhu Behera and Dr. A. K. Nanda, who are also the Governing Body members of Vedanta Science College were also present on the dais.

The proposed Vedanta Science College will commence classes from the academic year 2011-12. The first batch of students will be admitted on merit basis, with preference to local students. The college will impart graduate level studies in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Zoology, Botany and Environment Science. It will have modern science laboratories, equipped with latest instruments.



The College will be managed by DAV College Trust and Management society for quality education. DAV College Trust and Management is a premier education society in the country and have already set up more than hundred colleges across India. With latest infrastructure, the college will provide facilities for sports, games and culture which will contribute to the all round development of students.

Sterlite Energy gets nod from State for Commercial Production

Sterlite Energy Limited, the Energy arm of Vedanta Resources Plc became the first Private Sector Power Plant in India to get approval for 'Commercial Operation Date' from Gridco Limited, a Government of Orissa Undertaking. SEL obtained the approval for Commercial Operation Date (COD) on November 09, 2010, after meeting all prescribed terms and conditions, which was scrutinized by Gridco officials during their visit to the Independent Power Plant (IPP) at Jharsuguda.

As agreed by the 'Orissa Electricity Regulatory Commission', Sterlite Energy Limited will supply power to the state grid at a regulated price. The first unit of its 2400 MW power plant was inaugurated by Chief Minister of Orissa, Naveen Pattnaik in August 2010. This unit of 600 MW is currently producing 625 MW of power, which is being supplied to the state grid. Orissa is headed to get full capacity power from the 600X4 MW power from August 2011.

Mr. Pramod Suri, Chief Executive Officer, SEL. thanked the state government and Gridco officials for their support. "SEL achieved this in the shortest possible time. This will further strengthen our effort to make Orissa power sufficient," he added.

This 2400 MW Independent Power Plant along with 1215 MW CPP will make this the largest single power location in the country. The IPP, the first of its kind in Orissa, is the first private sector power project in the state which was completed in record time.

It employs latest environment friendly technology. A hybrid ESP with fabric filter is being deployed for the first time in an Indian Power Plant to achieve lowest emission standards. The IPP has dual LP flow steam turbine and four 150 meter high natural draft cooling towers, (among the largest in the country). The IPP has also employed many environment friendly features, including, among others, high contracted slurry disposal (HCSD) with very low consumption of water as compared to wet slurry system. Coal, the raw material for the IPP will be sourced from IB Valley coalfield.





Lanjigarh Project Area Development Foundation

The Lanjigarh Project Area Development Foundation (LPADF) - a special purpose vehicle formed by Government of Orissa with Directors from Government of Orissa (GoO), Orissa Mining Corporation (OMC) and Sterlite Industries (India) Limited (SIIL) as per the directives of the Supreme Courts for Vedanta Refinery project at Lanjigarh and OMC's Niyamgiri mining project.

This model will promote sustainable socio-economic development in tribal and rural areas. Since its inception in October 2009 the LPADF has taken up a lot of developmental work such as comprehensive upgradation of tribal schools, college infrastructure, upgradation of electrical system, health facility etc In Kalahandi and Rayagada district. The main focus areas are development in health, education, livelihood, communication and cultural heritage. The LPADF also inducted three Mobile Health Units (MHUs) in the diarrhoea affected areas of Rayagada district.

The LPADF also donated three fully operational Ambulances to the District Administration of Rayagada. The ambulances will be used for the Janani Suraksha Yojana program and mobile health service in the district.

"The ambulances will help save the lives of those in need. of urgent medical care by facilitating rapid access to local health service." said Mukesh Kumar, COO, VAL, Lanjigarh. The LPADF is committed for further contribution to improve healthcare facility for tribal rural population in the district, he informed.

Kalahandi is known to be a Malaria-prone area. In an attempt to make Kalahandi district free from Malaria, Lanjigarh Project Area Development Foundation (LPADF) is giving top priority to eradication of malaria mainly in the Lanjigarh block of Kalahandi by spending around Rs 1 (one) core. In 2010, out of 21526 blood samples collected 2881 people were detected positive for malaria in Lanjigarh.



LPADF has started a number of projects like distribution of medicated mosquito nets, safe drinking water supply, emphasis on cleanliness and sanitation etc besides bringing awareness in the community. Initially, 20473 medicated mosquito nets are to be distributed in Lanjigarh block alone.

LPADF is the first ever initiative in India for sharing economic benefits of industrialisation with the society. This model, advised by the Supreme Court for Vedanta Refinery Project and OMC's Niyamgiri mining project, will help in confidence building in the society and promote sustainable socio-economic development through industrialization in tribal and rural areas. The main focus areas are development in health, education, livelihood, communication and cultural heritage.

Self-Employment Opportunity for Tribal Women of Kalahandi



managing their daily chores. Now more than 318 women of 10 villages in Niyamgiri region are earning more than Rs. 2000 per month each, by selling leaf plates.

In its effort to make the tribal women of Kalahandi self-sufficient and to enhance and support their livelihood, Vedanta Aluminium Limited (VAL), Lanjigarh, distributed 45 sewing machines for leaf plate making at Rajendrapur of Lanjigarh Block. These tribal women, who could barely manage to get a square meal a day, now can earn Rs. 2000-3000 per month by stitching leaf plates. This became possible with the efforts of project "Jeebika" run by VAL, Lanjigarh, under its Corporate Social Responsibility program.

These tribal women will collect 'sal and siali leaves' from the forest and will stitch the same into leaf plates. The plate has huge demand in local markets as well as outside. VAL has tied up with Non Government Organization "Unnayan", who will handle the marketing of the leaf plates. Initially 150 women of 15 Self Help Groups will be engaged in the self-employment programme.

Earlier, a similar sort of program was organized by VAL at Phuldumer village, situated at the foothills of Niyamgiri hills. The village is a habitat of Dongria Kondh people, who had never thought of earning Rs. 2000 working from home while

Vedanta Gyanashree Award to Meritorious Students of Kalahandi

Vedanta Aluminium Limited, Lanjigarh on January 26, 2011 awarded Vedanta Gyanashree Award to three meritorious students of Kalahandi for showing outstanding result in 10th and 12th exams from HSC, ICSE, and CBSE boards. Mr. Bikram Keshari Aarokhu, Minister of Rural Development and Law presented the awardees a laptop each

Congratulating the students, Dr. Mukesh Kumar, president and COO VAL said, "Education is an important tool for the future generation and Vedanta makes every effort to encourage the students of Kalahandi for the overall development of the district."

Vedanta Gyanashree Award 2011 was given to Sri Somya Parimanik of Durga Madhav Uchha Vidyalay, Rampur for securing 17th position in HSE from Board of Secondary Education, Orissa, Sri Bishesh Sahoo of Vimla Convent School, Bhawanipatna for being the topper with 94% marks in ICSE and Miss Sradha Satpathy of Kendriya Vidyalaya, Bhawanipatna who topped in CBSE exam with 95% marks.





SRI: Project Annadatta

Systems of Rice Intensification (SRI) – A New CSR Initiative by Vedanta to expose farmers of the region to a new technology named Systems of Rice Intensification (SRI), Project Annadatta was launched by Vedanta in the month of June 2010. SRI as a technique helps farmers to produce about 47-50% more as compared to the conventional method of rice cultivation. The Project is being supported by Vedanta Aluminium Ltd, with a specialized Non Governmental Organization (NGO) named SRUTI. The Project is running in 20 villages of Laikera block of Jharsuguda district covering 400 Farmers.

The farmers have been organized into 20 farmers club. The major role to be played by the farmers group would be to spread the benefits of SRI to all members of the respective villages. Each of the farmer's club has been provided with hundred weeders (machine used for weeding) and 60 markers (for equal spacing). They have been provided with 3HP motor pumps for water supply. The project lays stress on organic farming.

Niyamgiri Vedanta Nagar Primary School Building Inaugurated



Mr. Pushpendu Singh Deo, Hon'ble Labour and Employment Minister inaugurated a newly constructed Niyamgiri Vedanta Nagar Government Primary School building at Lanjigarh. Prior to this, the school was running in a rehabilitation building constructed by VAL, Lanjigarh.

Speaking on the occasion, the Hon'ble Minister said, "People at the rehabilitation colony are fortunate that Vedanta opened a refinery at Lanjigarh for which they will get a lot of benefit for their development."

Mr. Sanjay Kumar Pattnaik – Vice-President of the company promised to provide computers to the students of the Primary School and said "Vedanta will take further necessary steps for the development of the Rehabilitation Colony. A playground will soon be dedicated to the children of the village."

People of the Niyamgiri Vedanta Nagar gave a memorandum to the Labour and Employment Minister requesting for electrification of the colony free of cost from the captive power plant at VAL. Vedanta Niyamgiri Village was set up for the rehabilitation of the people who were displaced after setting up of alumina refinery by VAL at Lanjigarh.

New Hostel for women employees at VAL Township, Lanjigarh

Vedanta Resources CEO Mr. M S Mehta on February 10, 2011 inaugurated a new Residential Hostel for the women employees at the Vedanta Aluminium township in Lanjigarh. Aluminium Sector CEO Mr. M S Siddiqi & VAL COO and President Dr. Mukesh Kumar were also present along with the senior management.

Mr. M S Mehta interacted with the employees of the Lanjigarh refinery and said, "Employees at Lanjigarh refinery are very enthusiastic. I congratulate them for their hard work and commitment." Mr. Mehta also shared details about various initiatives of Vedanta Resources in different sectors.

This hostel consists of 60 rooms with accommodation for more than 100 girls with all modern amenities. It's a great effort on the part of Vedanta in providing a better standard of living for its employees.



Vedanta's Education Initiative Scripts Success



"Vedanta Vidhyarthi Vikas Yojna" (VVVY) was introduced by Vedanta in 2009 to improve the quality of education of the Secondary school students in vernacular schools from standard 8th to 10th at its core peripheral villages, namely Bhurkamunda, Katikela, Brundamal, Kurebaga, Banjari and Bhagipali.

The VVY project has been widely welcomed by the students and community and has ensured progress of the students enrolled in the remedial coaching centre, reflected in the report cards. The passing percentage of the students enrolled under VVY programme in the main HSC exam-2010 has increased to 78% from 18% of the previous year.

Parents of the students and the community members have expressed their gratitude to Vedanta for the support in improving the Educational standard in the community. The project has now been expanded to few other areas of the Plant periphery.

Family Planning Operation Programme at Lanjigarh

In its effort to sensitize the community about small family norms, Vedanta Aluminium Limited (VAL), Lanjigarh organized a Family Planning operation program in collaboration with Government Health Department at UGPHC, Biswanathpur of Kalahandi district in Orissa on 14th November, 2010.

Total 23 tubectomy cases have been operated by government doctors on the occasion. Free medicines have also been distributed to the patients after the operation. Vedanta Aluminium Limited provided two ambulances to serve the patients. All the patients were safely shifted back to their homes on the same day by VAL's ambulance services.



New Classrooms Inaugurated under project “Shiksha”

Dr. Mukesh Kumar, President and COO, Vedanta Aluminium Limited, Lanjigarh, inaugurated Additional Classrooms of Sishu Vidya Mandir at Ambodala on January 2, 2011. VAL constructed the classroom under its project 'Shiksha'.

Education being an important tool in building future, Vedanta has been trying to improve the education sector in Kalahandi and Rayagada district. Vedanta is partnering with the Government under Project Shiksha to bridge the gaps and ensure that every child under 14 goes to school.

"This is just a beginning, Vedanta has envisaged a lot for the development of the region like Ambodala and Muniguda," further added Dr. Mukesh Kumar.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by VAL employees, school teachers, committee members, opinion makers, Gram Panchayat representatives, students and parents.



Vedanta Organizes 14th Jharsuguda District Athletic Meet 2010

Vedanta Aluminium Ltd together with Jharsuguda District Athletic Association had organized the "14th District Athletic meet" from 15th to 17th December 2010 at Wireless Ground, Railway Colony, Jharsuguda. Over seven hundred athletes from different schools, colleges and sports clubs of Jharsuguda district participated in various sporting events like long jump, high jump, sprint and javelin throw etc.

The grand closing ceremony was attended by Mr. Kishore Mohanty, MP (RS), Mr.D.K.Singh, Sr VP VAL Jharsuguda, Mr. Tahalu Sahu and Mr K K Saxena, Sr Officer East Coast Railways, among others. The successful athletes were given awards and certificates by the dignitaries present.



Blood Donation Camp Organized At Lanjigarh



VAL, Lanjigarh in association with Red Cross society, Bhawanipatna organized a Voluntary Blood Donation Camp at the Niyamgiri Vedanta Nagar Rehabilitation Colony Hospital. The camp witnessed huge participation from VAL employees. The donors were given certificates and identity card by District Red Cross Society, Kalahandi.

Dr. Mukesh Kumar, President and COO, VAL inaugurated the programme and encouraged the employees for the noble cause. "Vedanta takes special care of the people of Kalahandi in health care facility. We have also opened Vedanta Hospital for this cause and this blood donation camp aims at benefiting the needy of this region"

Besides blood donation camp, Vedanta organizes several health camps in its periphery villages. People are given free consulting services as well as medicines in these outreach camps.

Kalahandi Utsav - Sabita Fly Ash Industry Grabs Main Attraction

Sabita Fly ash Industry, an environment friendly Brick Manufacturing unit which uses Fly ash, Red Mud and lime grits to make bricks, was the main attraction at Kalahandi Utsav 'Ghumura – 2011' being organized at the district head quarter, Bhawanipatna. Fly ash, Red Mud and lime grits, the waste generated from Lanjigarh alumina refinery, are the main raw materials used for manufacturing bricks.

Sabita Fly ash Industry is the first Environment friendly Brick Manufacturing unit in Bhawanipatna producing nearly 10,000 Bricks per Day. The firm utilizes technology jointly developed by the Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology, Bhubaneswar (CSIR Laboratory) and Vedanta Aluminium Limited.

Ashok Mishra, representative of Sabita Fly ash said, "We take red mud and fly ash free of cost from Vedanta Aluminium Limited, Lanjigarh to make bricks. The bricks are stronger than the traditional ones and have good value in the market; hundreds of people have also got employment with this industry. Vedanta gives all the support to our industry."

Mishra further said that people from nearby places like Kesinga, Dharmagarh, Junagarh, Rampur etc. buy their bricks. This industry doesn't need much skilled manpower and is an "Ideal Project" for an area like Kalahandi District which has low literacy rate and high unskilled manpower.



Vedanta Asha Conducts a Training Programme on Accounting



A two days training programme for SHG Accountants was organised from 28th to 29th October, 2010 by ASHA(Adarsh Social Health and Service Association), a voluntary organisation, with the support of Vedanta Aluminium Limited, Jharsuguda.

The Project Vedanta ASHA was launched to empower the community by intervening in their various Livelihood generating programmes and enhancing their awareness on local self governance.

The emphasis of the project is to strengthen women's groups to save and have access to prompt credit at an affordable rate of interest for economic prosperity. Around 100 participants from two blocks of Laikera and Kirimira of Jharsuguda District attended this training programme.

Safety Training Programme at VAL, Jharsuguda

As a major initiative towards Safety at its Jharsuguda project site, Vedanta is conducting a 330 Days Safety Training Program in the VAL premises. It was started on 21st December 2009 by the National Safety Council, Orissa Chapter. The main purpose of this Safety training is to create awareness among contract labours for prevention of accidents at VAL site. The Safety Training is organized to make all the workers who work on the various VAL sites, (staff, associates, fellows, contract workers, temporary labour, etc.) aware of the fact that they are responsible for their own safety and that they have a major role to play in the prevention of risks.

We have covered 16,327 manpower including skilled, unskilled workers, supervisors, safety stewards & engineers. A safety training program gives the knowledge & confidence that employees need to complete their jobs while being safe at site. The knowledge an employee gains from a safety training program is key to a safe workplace.



Annual Day Celebration at R&R Colony Child Care Centre, Jharsuguda



Annual day function of the Child Care Centre at Maa Samaleswari Nagar, Vedanta R&R Colony was celebrated on 29th November 2010 to commemorate the successful completion of the centre's one year of functioning with the active cooperation of the community. A variety programme of folk dance, Record dance and Singing by the local talents regaled the audience with all its splendour. Meritorious children of various competitions held earlier like storytelling, singing, 100 metres race and the best student of the centre were given away prizes.

The child care centre at R&R colony has been supported by Vedanta and is being run by an NGO named "Sambalpur Social Service Society" (SSSS). The idea is to motivate and bring the resident children to the mainstream. The other objectives of the centre are to provide pre-primary education, and to prepare the children to get admission in good schools in future, to reduce malnutrition by 15% and to develop healthy habits in them. A total of thirty children are benefitted due to this child care centre. They are being taught through play & learn methods.

A Parents' Association has been formed to support and guide the programme through periodic interactions and suggestions. The Association feels that the child care centre is the best platform to build the children's potential both mentally, physically and emotionally and to prepare them for a better future.

Vedanta Foundation Helps Jail Inmates in Orissa for Computer Literacy



Learning has no bar. It has been again proved by 150 Jail inmates in Orissa. Thanks to Vedanta Foundation for launching vocational training program for Jail inmates. After success in Asia's largest Jail at Tihar, the Foundation launched the training program in basic computer operations through its 'Vedanta Umeed' program in Orissa in June 2010. For women jail inmate the Foundation is also providing training program on tailoring.

In the six month course, the participants are trained on the basics of computer, DTP, MS Office Applications and the Accounting Package. Classes are held three hour a day. Learners are provided with free books and other required materials. "Vedanta Umeed aims to rehabilitate Prisoners by providing them with tools to secure livelihood after the end of their jail terms", said Mr. T.Ravi Krishnan, Chief Executive Officer, Vedanta Foundation.

The Vedanta Umeed program has received tremendous response from the jail inmates. The training imparted to prisoners has helped them increase their confidence levels and have prepared them to re-enter the job market with new skills, thus giving a new hope for them. "With the computer operation skill, I can be able to get a job, after release from the prison," said Narayan Jena (name changed), who is an under-trial at Berhampur Circle Jail.

At present the program is being run in Six jails in Orissa. The Compute Training program was started in Berhampur Circle Jail and has included in Choudwar Circle Jail, Jharpada Special Jail, Sambalpur Circle Jail, Bhawanipatna District Jail. And the tailoring training course is being imparted at Berhampur Circle Jail and Sambalpur Nari Bandi Niketan. The foundation is also all set to start the program in two more jails in Orissa.

In addition to training, the Foundation is also trying to get employment for the trained prisoners. "We are in the process of negotiation with some companies to get data-entry job for the jail inmates," informed Mr. Dinamani Bishi, Coordinator for the Vedanta Umeed project in Orissa.

Vedanta Foundation is a part of Vedanta Group. The Foundation implementing the Vedanta Umeed program in 14 Jails, training 12000 jail inmates, across India. In Orissa, the Foundation is also supporting computer training for youths as well as about 1000 Anganwadi Centres in Tribal Areas.



Vedanta Aluminium Organizes HIV/AIDS Awareness Camp: Bidhanbag, West Bengal

An HIV/AIDS Awareness Camp was organized by Vedanta Aluminium, Bidhanbag Project in partnership with IMME, Kolkata, Jemeri Gram Panchayat, Ratibati Gram Panchayat, Tirat Gram Panchayat and Jamuria Municipality on 31st January, 2011 at BALCO Community Center, Bidhanbag for the local youth of Jemeri, Tirat and Ratibati Gram Panchayats of Raniganj Panchayat Samiti and Jamuria Municipality. The objectives of the HIV/AIDS awareness camp were as under:

1. To impart knowledge on AIDS to the local youths
2. To ascertain the level of awareness of preventive practices relating to HIV/AIDS
3. To facilitate change in the attitudes and behaviour which increase the spread of HIV infection
4. To challenge attitudes of the communities towards people who are living with HIV or AIDS, so that communities support them and meet their emotional and practical needs

A total of 30 persons including men and women between the age group of 20 to 45 years had participated in the above mentioned HIV/AIDS awareness camp.



Health Awareness Camp to Control Chicken Pox Outbreak: Bidhanbag, West Bengal



A health awareness camp on causes and control measures of Chicken Pox was held on 13/1/2011 at North Brook Village of Bidhanbag, West Bengal to bring awareness about the causes and treatment measures of Chicken Pox followed by a field visit of the govt. medical team along with the Jemeri Gram Panchayat representatives and Vedanta Team. About 100 families were affected with Chicken Pox. The combined team of govt. medical department and Vedanta team formed a coordination team to monitor the Chicken Pox eradication drive and responsibilities were allotted to each participant in respect of surveillance, hygiene, treatment and follow up.

About 122 cases of chicken pox were identified and their treatment was undertaken immediately. Advice on preventive measures was given to the family of the affected patients. Sanitation of the village was taken care of with the help of Jemeri Gram Panchayat. Garbage was cleaned, drains were cleaned and the patients were advised to maintain personal hygiene. Subsequent follow up was undertaken in the village at regular intervals.

Global Trends in Aluminium Industry



The Ministry of Mines, Government of India organized one day Seminar on "Consultation with Stakeholders on Aluminium Mission Plan 2010-2020" at New Delhi on 1st December 2010. The seminar was chaired by Hon'ble Minister of Mines, Secretary, Joint secretary and other officials of Mines ministry, JNARDC, Top Executives of Primary Aluminium Producers like NALCO, Hindalco, VAL, Secondary Metal Producers, Downstream Industry, end users like Defence, ISRO, etc. The main objective of the seminar was to develop a road map for Aluminium Industry in India.

Dr Mukesh Kumar, COO, VAL Lanjigarh was invited to give a presentation on "Global Trends in Technology Related to Aluminium Industry and Bottlenecks". He presented the Road Map for Zero Discharge-Zero Waste and emphasized on

undertaking projects in joint collaboration between Industry, Institution and Government i.e the golden triangle. He also presented the initiative taken by Vedanta in Alumina and Aluminium Technology to make this industry Environmental-friendly.

While speaking in support of Aluminium Industry, he emphasized that Aluminium is the only metal which can replace wood in all respect and can help in prevent the continuous depletion of forests. Aluminium is rightly known as a "Green Metal" as mining of Bauxite helps in improving forest cover and water availability while simultaneously providing livelihood support. Bauxite rich hills are generally barren and don't support plantation. Plantation after mining can be undertaken to strengthen ground water recharging system so that water is available during non-monsoon period also.

Minister of Mines Shri B K Handique emphasized on the need for faster growth of Aluminium Industry as the Indian Economy is projected to be amongst the top five in the world by 2025 and the overall national consumption of aluminium is projected to be 5 million tonnes by 2015 and 10 million tonnes by 2020. The country is blessed with ample resources of good quality reserves of Bauxite, the 4th largest in the world. He also emphasized on the need for developing Aluminium alloys as the Defence Department and ISRO alone spend more than Rs 6000 Cr to import Aluminium alloys.

Aluminium Mission Plan is going to be released by March 2011.

Delhi Odia Students' Association stress on 'Inclusive Growth'

Concerned over the ongoing controversy over the Vedanta bauxite mining in the Niyamagiri hills, a 12-member fact finding team of the Delhi Odia Students' Association (DOSA) made a two-day visit to the Lanjigarh block in Kalahandi district and observed that corporates, politicians and NGOs need to forget their differences and focus on the development of the State instead..

Addressing a Press conference here on Friday, DOSA president Tejeswar Parida said that the poor tribals of the region are the victims of groups with vested interests and require qualitative improvements in the socio-economic development and hoped that the local administration would be engaged in developmental interventions for ensuring better living standards for the poor.

Parida observed that there can be harmony between the industrial development and environmental protection and also observed that the Centre should rethink about its stand on according environmental clearance to the Vedanta group. "If Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh could give clearances to the Polavaram project and Navi Mumbai airport, why not in Odisha's case," Parida questioned.

"The functioning of schools, health centre, vocational training, construction of small bridges, check dams for irrigation purpose and formation of women self help groups by Vedanta deserves appreciation," said Parida.



Green Jharsuguda



"In earlier days, the field adjacent to our school was barren, today when we see healthy saplings coming up near our school we feel overjoyed"

Ms Dharitri Dhrua, Student of RK high school, H. Katapali.

Promoting the cause of sustainable development, Vedanta Aluminium Ltd has always come up with numerous social, environmental, educational, health and livelihood projects in Jharsuguda and its periphery. With its ongoing effort to endorse and inculcate a greener environment and promote awareness among the communities, Vedanta CSR has now set off a project commencing the afforestation programme and a greenbelt development in Jharsuguda, called "GREEN Jharsuguda" (Generation and Reforestation for Enabling Environment in Jharsuguda).

The venture was approved for an area of 370 acres of land by the Jharsuguda District Administration; of which 82.390 acres has already been handed over to VAL. Vedanta has been promoting this plantation project, costing 20.58 lacs for three years (2010-2013) which includes new plantation, maintenance and replacement.

Three expert NGO agencies AASTHA, Mirajul & Associates and IWOVA have been delegated for the plantation programme. In the first phase, 50,000 fast growing saplings, like Neem, Karanja, Chatiyan, Gulmohar have already been planted over an area of 62 acres. Villages like Beherapat, Banjari and Lohrabudh have been covered on priority basis.

Lauding the efforts of Vedanta Ms. Rashmita Tete, Secretary- IWOVA says, "The effort is extremely praiseworthy because it sends across a very strong message of planting more and more trees; we hope the good work continues. Considering these noble initiatives undertaken by Vedanta, very soon we can perceive Jharsuguda turning around as a developed "Green city" contributing to the social, ecological and economic strength of Orissa.



Live Graciously - Vedanta Township, Jharsuguda



The first phase of the Vedanta Township at Jharsuguda is nearing completion. It consists of housing for 936 employees. Between July and November 2010, units have been handed over to 616 employees. The remaining units will be handed over from February 2011. Facilities like the Community Centre, Temple, Commercial Complex etc. will be completed soon. An Apollo clinic is already functional within the township area.

Based on a self contained model, the residential units have been formed in the cluster concept and all five clusters have their own amenity centre and swimming pool. Each unit has wireless internet connectivity along with IP phone and DTH facility in each room

The Community Centre will house an auditorium and indoor games. The Commercial Complex which will contain branded stores, hyper market, bank, and a café. Security surveillance within the township and along the boundary of township are being created.

The most beautiful feature of the township is its landscape . The landscape will use water fountains and greenery. We are proud of the fact that all the available facilities when fully operational will make this a world class state of the art township.





Glimpses of Vedanta Township

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

I congratulate you on dedicating the first unit of your 600 MW power plant at Jharsuguda to the state of Orissa bringing much relief to the consumers. Power is the nerve centre of any economy and hence the benefits will be felt by industry also.

There is immediate need for reviewing the grant of mining rights to Vedanta on the part of the government while setting preconditions by stipulating norms for further development of the state and its people through increased CSR and other developmental activities by the company.

Geoscientists of the state have clearly dispelled any myth regarding the widespread concern over ecological damage caused by Bauxite mining, claiming that this has no scientific basis and is a mere pretext to stall the project.

Clearance procedures require proper planning both by the State as well as the Central Govt. to ensure a balance between needs for development through industrialization with those of conservation. Only then can progress go hand in hand with equitable development.

The steps taken to highlight the cultural richness of the Dongria Kondh tribe by releasing a musical album in the Kui language is a unique venture. This will go a long way in building trust and facilitating the gradual assimilation of the tribes in the cultural mainstream of the state

Vedanta should continue to grow and work for the betterment of the people.

Yours sincerely

Via Email

Pratap Kumar Pattnaik
(New Delhi)

