

Transforming Odisha into a global powerhouse: Vedanta accelerates State's rise

Odisha is a state of many triumphs. Having cemented its position as the 'Aluminium Capital of India', and now well on its way to becoming the 'Aluminium Capital of the World', the state's progress is a strong testament to its gainful utilization of rich mineral resources, skilled human capital and progressive business environment. Harnessing these strengths, the state has embarked on a transformative growth journey.

This rise is driven in significant part through the state's metals and mining sector, of which Vedanta is a significant part. The company operates a 2 MTPA (million tonnes per annum) alumina refinery in Lanjigarh (Kalahandi district, Odisha) since 2007 and an associated 75 MW captive power plant. It operates one of the world's largest aluminium smelters in the world at Jharsuguda. At 1.8 million tonnes per annum capacity, Vedanta Aluminium's Jharsuguda plant is a source of pride for the state as the only Indian smelter in the prestigious global '1 Million Tonne' club. Vedanta has also commenced mining operations in several districts of Odisha, each of which has the potential to create up to 10,000 livelihood opportunities both directly and indirectly. Together, they have been widely hailed for bringing remote regions into the socio-economic mainstream, while also contributing nearly 4% to Odisha's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP).

Building an industrial ecosystem for socio-economic growth

Odisha represents Vedanta's single largest investment anywhere in the world, at over INR 1 lakh crores, creating 5 lakh employment opportunities and supporting the growth of hundreds of MSMEs. The company has achieved a milestone by becoming the first Indian metals producer to manufacture low-carbon aluminium, branded 'Restora', for customers in 50+ countries worldwide. Restora was first produced in Odisha by Vedanta. Through Restora,



Vedanta Aluminium aims to address the fast-growing global demand for low-carbon aluminium, and lead the global transition to a Net Zero future.

Transforming communities, transforming lives

Vedanta Aluminium's social commitments have been instrumental in alleviating poverty by triggering significant development in Kalahandi and Jharsuguda. Vedanta's investments in Odisha have also resulted in exponential district GDP growth, from 1% to 16% in Kalahandi and 15% in Jharsuguda between 2003-2015, putting them both on the global industrial map. The company's social endeavours reach out to over 130 remote villages in both districts, benefiting nearly 2.5 lakh people in rural India in a year.

Vedanta Aluminium established Kalahandi's first English medium school - the DAV Vedanta International School - which today has over 1200 students, over 90% of whom are from local communities. This school has triggered an aspiration for quality education among local communities, reflected in the rise in literacy levels in Kalahandi from 38.4% in 2001 to 50.9% in 2011. Students at the school have achieved stellar academic performance, and are also trained in important extracurricular skills such as archery, karate and the traditional saura art painting. Through its art and culture initiatives, Vedanta Aluminium is helping preserve ancient, treasured art forms such as Dhokra sculptures and Saura tribal art. Over 40,000 children and youth have benefited to date from the company's interventions in qual-

ity education, career counselling, health interventions, midday meals, etc. Vedanta Aluminium is also operating over 500 Nand Ghars (modernized anganwadis), which are important community hubs for women and child development in the state.

reserves, Odisha is uniquely positioned to accelerate its growth by unlocking the full potential of the domestic aluminium industry. To create a robust domestic ecosystem of aluminium manufacturing, Vedanta Aluminium is setting up the Vedanta Aluminium Park at Jharsuguda. Inaugurated by the Hon'ble Odisha CM at the Make in Odisha Conclave 2022, the upcoming 253-



acre Aluminium Park at Jharsuguda can create extra value-addition of INR 4,500 crores for the state, attracting over 100 SMEs and MSMEs to Odisha, and creating additional livelihood opportunities for over 1 lakh people.

"With the aluminium industry deemed a 'Champion Sector' by the Government of India, Odisha has a crucial role to play in propelling India's journey towards a USD 5 trillion economy. There is an Australia in Odisha, evident in the abundance of minerals and natural resources here. The Government of Odisha's 5T framework has improved the ease of doing business in the state. No wonder, Odisha is among the fastest-growing states in the country. As testimony to this potential, Vedanta has made its biggest investment anywhere in the country, in this state and has new investments in the pipeline for the expansion of our aluminium operations. Vedanta Aluminium is proud to be Odisha's partner in progress and we are determined to use the full potential of our assets to make this state the aluminium destination of the world." - Mr. Sunil Gupta, COO - Aluminium Business, Vedanta Ltd.

Leveraging Odisha's aluminium future

Odisha is poised on the cusp of a future filled with unmet possibilities, by sustainably leveraging its richly laden geology. With 50% of the country's bauxite