

Vedanta Aluminium signs MoU for all women fly ash making unit

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

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Vedanta Aluminium, signed a MoU with the Subhalaxmi Cooperative for setting up a women-led fly ash brick manufacturing facility that will produce close to one crore bricks annually.

The cooperative will be provided with fly ash free-of-cost from Vedanta's aluminium plant. The facility, with the capacity to produce 25,000+ bricks daily, will be managed entirely by the members of the Subhalaxmi Cooperative. Vedanta Aluminium will extend support in the installation and commissioning of the

brick manufacturing unit. It will also arrange for training the operators and ensure third-party quality testing of sample bricks, thereby boosting technical skills and knowledge within the community as well. Since March 2022, Vedanta Aluminium has supplied over 1.5 million tonnes of fly ash to major cement manufacturers and 3 million tonnes to the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for their road-building projects.

The Subhalaxmi Cooperative has more than 5,000 women members spread across 440+ Self Help Groups.

Sunil Gupta, COO, Vedanta

Aluminium said "By repurposing industrial by-products like fly ash into eco-friendly building materials, we are not only contributing to a circular economy but also creating meaningful livelihood opportunities for thousands of rural women".

Pankajini Oram, President, Subhalaxmi Cooperative, said: "The partnership with Vedanta Aluminium marks a new chapter in our journey of empowerment. The upcoming unit will not only provide our members with a stable source of income but also equip them with valuable technical skills".