

Date:09<sup>th</sup> Sep'22

To,  
**The Consultant (Judicial)**  
**National Green Tribunal (NGT)**  
**New Delhi -110001**

**Sub.:** Response of Vedanta limited for Joint committee report based on hearing on 02.08.22 in reference to NGT petition Original Application no. 328/2022 dated 09.05.22 and dissenting opinion of one member of committee Shri Rajendra Gupta Additional collector for conducting prospecting work in Baghmara Gold Composite Licence- Division no 254 comprising 144.6 hectare.

**Ref:** “Baghmara Gold CL Division no 254 comprising 144.6 hectare in Barnawapara wildlife sanctuary | NGT petition, O. A. No. 328/2022 hearing dated 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug 2022| to Buyer Ref: M/s Vedanta Limited through Gaurav Dua- Head Exploration| dated 08th Aug'22

R/Sir,

I, Dr Kavita Bhardwaj is replying on behalf of Vedanta Ltd. as I have taken charge of ‘Interim Head of Vedanta Exploration-India’ after resignation of Mr Gaurav Dua.

In reference to your queries and positive remarks mentioned in the joint committee’s report, we want to bring again in your kind notice following responses:

1. Forest Clearance (Stage 1 & 2) taken by Vedanta Ltd for prospecting/exploration activity only ‘not for mining activity’.
2. Presently area has not proven any economic resource potential for mining, as any prospecting drilling has not been started by Vedanta to prove economic R&R till date.
3. As we have not started any prospecting drilling activity in the area, hence we have not done any damage to the existing flora and fauna and not affected ecosystem in the said area.
4. The Drilling machine, which we are going to use are specially designed to drill in dense forest areas to avoid damage to forest, as these are small sized foldable machines which can be easily dismantled and assembled again.
5. Vedanta assure you that drilling machines will be taken from the existing extraction path only, which is used by forest department’s vehicle movement for patrolling and other activities like wood log, so by using same existing path, we are not going to damage any flora and fauna.
6. Our prospecting licence area is located out of Barnawapara sanctuary and its eco-sensitive zone boundary. So, we are not going to disturb any ecology of sensitive area and will not cause any environmental & forest degradation as per rules. Still, we assure NGT that we will do drilling in day shift only with all precaution and for which, have already committed at the time of forest clearance in written.

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**VEDANTA LIMITED**

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**CIN:** L13209MH1965PLC291394

7. Previously, GSI has already conducted the survey/Drilling by using the existing path in div. 254 and we are also going to follow same path; Hence we don't think, there will be any damage to plantation and animals of the area.

With due respect, Vedanta is committed for **ESG** (Environment, Sustainability and Governance) and has pledged to be an ESG-driven organization. As a part of this mission, Vedanta is committed to upskilling employees & partners through learning and development initiatives for ESG. Being a responsible Indian Citizen and as a brand ambassador (employee) of Vedanta, we assure you to take care of Environment and surrounding communities with utmost priority.

**We humbly request you to close the petition by agreeing to the positive remark given by the joint committee in attached report sent by you.**

'Vedanta' is seeking kind support from hon'ble Tribunal member to serve a nation with new gold discoveries to reduce dependency (gold import) on other countries to give strength to Indian currency in alignment of **VISION INDIA@ 2047** for attaining new heights of prosperity of the country. We are also committed for community development, employment, infrastructure development, women empowerment, child education & nutrition, animal welfare (TACO) and other campaign required for community development time to time as a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in alignment of our ESG commitment which is driven by our Chairman and Group CEO.



When you embrace the community around you, the community in turn will enable, support, and empower you.  
**Mr. Sunil Duggal, Group CEO**

*Request you to send any future communication on the name of undersigned on below address and e-mails mentioned in signature.*

Thanking you

Sincere Regards,



**Dr Kavita Bhardwaj**  
(Interim Head-Vedanta Exploration-India)  
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