

Vedanta to Establish 100 State-of-the-art Nand Ghars in Sakti District of Chhattisgarh

- Under the MoU, 100 brownfield Anganwadis in Sakti district will be transformed into modernized Nand Ghars
- Vedanta Group has set benchmarks in rural development by establishing 7,000 Nand Ghars across 15 Indian states, providing advanced services in education, nutrition, health and skilling

New Delhi / Singhitarai, January 29, 2025: In a monumental step towards community development, Vedanta Group, under its flagship women and child development initiative 'Project Nand Ghar' will establish 100 Nand Ghars in Sakti district of Chhattisgarh state. This ambitious project has been formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Anil Agarwal Foundation (AAF), the social impact arm of Vedanta, and Sakti District's Women and Child Development (WCD) Department.

The initiative will be supported by Vedanta Ltd. Chhattisgarh Thermal Power Plant (VLCTPP), an under construction thermal power plant in Singhitarai, with a total capacity of 1,200 MW. A list of 100 brownfield Anganwadis have been identified by Sakti's WCD department to be transformed into modernized Nand Ghars. 'Project Nand Ghar' reflects Vedanta Group's unwavering commitment to uplift communities by transforming traditional Anganwadis into state-of-the-art facilities.

Lauding Vedanta Group's commitment to community development, **Mr. Sudhakar Bodle, District Women and Child Development Officer, Sakti** stated, *"We are pleased to witness this important initiative in collaboration with the Anil Agarwal Foundation and VLCTPP, aimed at transforming our district's Anganwadis into Nand Ghars. These modernized centres will provide an enhanced ecosystem, ensuring that our children receive quality education, experience overall development, and that women are empowered. I am confident that this partnership will create new opportunities and contribute significantly to the welfare of the targeted beneficiaries in Sakti district."*

Mr. Shashi Arora, CEO of Nand Ghar, remarked, *"I am grateful to the Govt of Chhattisgarh and Women & Child Development Department of Sakti District for entrusting us with the responsibility of transforming 100 existing Anganwadis into technologically advanced Nand Ghar centers. for holistic child and women development. With over 7,000 Nand Ghars already successfully operational across 15 states, we have had the privilege of positively impacting over 5,00,000 children and women. We are committed to continuing this journey to revolutionize the landscape of childcare, focusing on key areas such as combating malnutrition, enhancing pre-primary education, and also of empowering women, as we work alongside the State and Central Governments to uplift communities and create lasting change."*

Commenting on the launch of the project in the operational area of **Vedanta Ltd Chhattisgarh Thermal Power Plant, its Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Devendra Kumar Patel**, said, *"Under the visionary leadership of Mr. Anil Agarwal, Chairman of Vedanta Group, we are making significant investments to drive large-scale community development, ensuring that the underserved benefit meaningfully. The Nand Ghar initiative stands as a beacon of hope for children and women in Sakti district, offering transformative opportunities and fostering sustainable growth. With its focused approach and unwavering dedication, this project is set to achieve outstanding milestones and pave the way for a brighter, more prosperous future for Chhattisgarh."*

Vedanta Group, through Anil Agarwal Foundation's flagship initiative Nand Ghar, has been at the forefront of modernizing rural childcare and women empowerment programs. Established in

partnership with the Ministry of Women and Child Development, 'Project Nand Ghar' is aimed at empowering 7 crore children and 2 crore women across 13.7 lakh Anganwadis nationwide. By providing improved health, nutrition, and skill development opportunities, the initiative integrates rural areas into India's development mainstream. Toward this, AAF has signed several MoUs in the past to strengthen the Nand Ghar network and in the state of Chhattisgarh, it already has 262 Nand Ghars operational.

The Nand Ghars are thoughtfully designed to bring about transformative change in the lives of children and women in rural areas. Built with sustainability at its core, the centres are equipped with state-of-the-art facilities such as smart learning tools, electricity, access to safe drinking water and clean toilets for hygienic sanitation facilities, these centers create a safe and enabling environment for children and women alike. Through interactive e-learning modules and smart TVs, children aged 3-6 years are introduced to a world of engaging education, preparing them for formal schooling. The inclusion of smart educational kits further enhances the joy of learning, making it both impactful and enjoyable for young minds.

In addition to transforming education, these centers play a pivotal role in combating malnutrition by providing nutritious meals to children, pregnant and lactating women. They also extend essential healthcare services, including regular health check-ups, immunization drives, and community outreach programs. To empower women, skill development workshops are organized to enhance their capabilities, fostering self-reliance and confidence. Additionally, credit linkage opportunities open avenues for women to explore entrepreneurial ventures, enabling financial independence and community upliftment.

About Nand Ghar:

Nand Ghar, a flagship social impact project under the Anil Agarwal Foundation, is a model project working towards strengthening the Anganwadi ecosystem of the country. The 7000 Nand Ghars are the enabler of change and sustainable development with a presence in 15 states across India and currently impacting more than 2.8 lakh children and 2.1 lakh women. Set up in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD), Nand Ghars are modernized 'Anganwadis' working to eradicate malnutrition among children, provide pre-primary education, primary healthcare, and empower rural women through skill training. Nand Ghars, the state-of-the-art Anganwadis, aim to transform the lives of 7 crore children and 2 crore women across the 13.7 lakh Anganwadis across the country. For more information, visit: <https://www.nandghar.org/>

About Anil Agarwal Foundation:

The Anil Agarwal Foundation is the umbrella entity for Vedanta's community and social initiatives. The focus areas of the Foundation are Healthcare, Women and Child development, Animal Welfare Projects, and Sports Initiatives. Anil Agarwal Foundation aims to empower communities, transform lives, and facilitate nation building through sustainable and inclusive growth. For more information, visit: https://www.vedantalimited.com/eng/social_impact_csr.php

About Vedanta Power:

Vedanta Group is one of the largest private sector power producers with 10,000 MW of thermal power capacity and its power business is committed to playing a pivotal role in generating and meeting the nation's energy requirement. Vedanta Power has plants in Mansa, Punjab (Talwandi Sabo Power Limited), Singhitari, Chhattisgarh (Vedanta Ltd. Chhattisgarh Thermal Power Plant) & Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh (Meenakshi Energy Limited), and is set to reach an installed capacity of 4,780 MW, serving various discoms and utilities, across the nation. Vedanta Ltd. Chhattisgarh Thermal Power Plant

(VLCTPP) is a coal-based thermal power plant with an installed capacity of 1200 MW (2x600 MW), located at Singhitrai village of Sakti District in Chhattisgarh.

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