



**WIKIPEDIA**  
The Free Encyclopedia

- [Main page](#)
- [Contents](#)
- [Featured content](#)
- [Current events](#)
- [Random article](#)
- [Donate to Wikipedia](#)
- [Wikimedia Shop](#)

Interaction

- [Help](#)
- [About Wikipedia](#)
- [Community portal](#)
- [Recent changes](#)
- [Contact page](#)

Tools

- [What links here](#)
- [Related changes](#)
- [Upload file](#)
- [Special pages](#)
- [Permanent link](#)
- [Page information](#)
- [Data item](#)
- [Cite this page](#)

Print/export

- [Create a book](#)
- [Download as PDF](#)
- [Printable version](#)

Languages

- [Deutsch](#)
- [فارسی](#)
- [Français](#)
- [Italiano](#)
- [Português](#)

[Edit links](#)



Wiki Loves Earth in focus during May and June  
Discover nature, take photos, help Wikipedia and win!

# Vedanta Resources

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Vedanta Resources plc** is a global diversified [metals](#) and [mining](#) company headquartered in [London, United Kingdom](#). It is the largest mining and [non-ferrous metals](#) company in India and also has mining operations in Australia and Zambia.<sup>[3]</sup> Its main products are [copper](#), [zinc](#), [aluminium](#), [lead](#) and [iron ore](#).<sup>[3][4]</sup> It is also developing commercial [power stations](#) in India in [Orissa](#) (2,400 MW) and [Punjab](#) (1,980 MW).<sup>[5]</sup>

It is listed on the [London Stock Exchange](#) and is a constituent of the [FTSE 250 Index](#).

Contents	
<b>1</b>	<a href="#">History</a>
<b>2</b>	<a href="#">Operations</a>
2.1	<a href="#">Copper</a>
2.2	<a href="#">Zinc</a>
2.3	<a href="#">Aluminium</a>
2.4	<a href="#">Iron ore</a>
2.5	<a href="#">Commercial power generation business</a>
<b>3</b>	<a href="#">Criticism</a>
3.1	<a href="#">Environmental damage</a>
3.2	<a href="#">Safety concerns</a>
3.2.1	<a href="#">2007 Mining Deaths</a>
3.2.2	<a href="#">Balco, Korba, Chhattisgarh</a>
3.3	<a href="#">Litigation</a>
3.3.1	<a href="#">Armenia</a>
3.3.2	<a href="#">India</a>
3.4	<a href="#">Human rights</a>
3.5	<a href="#">Legal violations</a>
<b>4</b>	<a href="#">References</a>
<b>5</b>	<a href="#">External links</a>

## Vedanta Resources plc



<b>Type</b>	Public limited company
<b>Traded as</b>	LSE: <a href="#">VED</a> <sup>🔗</sup>
<b>Industry</b>	<a href="#">Metals</a> and <a href="#">Mining</a>
<b>Founded</b>	<a href="#">Bombay</a> , India (1976)
<b>Founder(s)</b>	<a href="#">Anil Agarwal</a>
<b>Headquarters</b>	<a href="#">London</a> , <a href="#">United Kingdom</a>
<b>Area served</b>	Worldwide
<b>Key people</b>	<a href="#">Anil Agarwal</a> (Executive Chairman) <a href="#">Navin Agarwal</a> (Deputy Executive Chairman) <a href="#">Tom Albanese</a> (Chief Executive)
<b>Products</b>	<a href="#">Copper</a> , <a href="#">aluminum</a> , <a href="#">zinc</a> , <a href="#">lead</a> , <a href="#">gold</a> , <a href="#">iron ore</a> , <a href="#">pig iron</a> , <a href="#">metallurgical coke</a> and <a href="#">oil and gas exploration</a>
<b>Revenue</b>	US\$ 14,989.8 million (2013) <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Operating income</b>	US\$ 2,512.0 million (2013) <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Profit</b>	US\$ 1,665.8 million (2013) <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Employees</b>	32,179 (2012) <sup>[2]</sup>
<b>Subsidiaries</b>	<a href="#">Sterlite Industries</a> <a href="#">Hindustan Zinc Limited</a> <a href="#">Sesa Goa</a> <a href="#">Bharat Aluminium Company</a> <a href="#">MALCO</a> <a href="#">Vedanta Aluminium</a> <a href="#">Sterlite Energy</a> <a href="#">Australian Copper Mines</a> <a href="#">Konkola Copper Mines</a>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.vedantaresources.com">www.vedantaresources.com</a> <sup>🔗</sup>

## History [\[edit\]](#)

The company was founded by [Anil Agarwal](#) in [Bombay](#) (now [Mumbai](#)) in 1976.<sup>[6]</sup> It was first listed on the [London Stock Exchange](#) in 2003 when it raised \$876 million through an [Initial Public Offering](#).<sup>[7]</sup> Meanwhile in 2006 it acquired Sterlite Gold, a gold mining business.<sup>[8]</sup> It raised an additional \$2bn through an [ADR](#) issue in 2007.<sup>[9]</sup> In 2008 it bought certain of the assets of [Asarco](#), a [copper mining](#) business, out of [Chapter 11](#) for \$2.6bn.<sup>[10]</sup> In December 2011 it announced the US\$8.67 billion acquisition of [Caim India](#), a subsidiary of [Caim Energy](#), heralding its foray in the oil sector.<sup>[11]</sup>

## Operations [\[edit\]](#)

### Copper [\[edit\]](#)

[Sterlite Industries](#) (India) Ltd: Sterlite is registered office headquartered in [Tuticorin](#), [Tamil Nadu](#), India. Sterlite has been a public listed company in India since 1988, and its equity shares are listed and traded on the NSE and the BSE, and are also listed and traded on the NYSE in the form of ADSs. Vedanta owns 53.9% of Sterlite and has management control of the company.

[Konkola Copper Mines](#): Vedanta owns 79.4% of KCM's share capital and have management control of the

company. KCM's other shareholder is ZCCM Investment Holdings plc. The government of Zambia has a controlling stake in ZCCM Investment Holdings plc.

**Copper Mines of Tasmania** Pty Ltd: CMT is headquartered in [Queenstown, Tasmania](#). Sterlite owns 100.0% of CMT and has management control of the company.

## **Zinc** [\[edit\]](#)

**Hindustan Zinc** Ltd: HZL is headquartered in [Udaipur](#) in the state of [Rajasthan](#). HZL's equity shares are listed and traded on the NSE and BSE. Sterlite owns 64.9% of the share capital in HZL and has management control. Sterlite has a call option to acquire the government of India's remaining ownership interest.

## **Aluminium** [\[edit\]](#)

**Bharat Aluminium Company** Ltd: BALCO is headquartered at [Korba](#) in the state of [Chhattisgarh](#). Sterlite owns 51.0% of the share capital of BALCO and has management control of the company. The government of India owns the remaining 49.0%. Sterlite exercised an option to acquire the government of India's remaining ownership interest in BALCO in March 2004.

**Vedanta Aluminium** Ltd: Vedanta Aluminium is headquartered in [Jharsuguda, Orissa](#). Vedanta owns 70.5% of the share capital of Vedanta Aluminium and Sterlite owns the remaining 29.5% share capital of Vedanta Aluminium. Vedanta Aluminium produces ingots, billets & wire rods that are sold in the markets around the world. Vedanta Aluminium Limited (VAL) has acquired 24.5% stake in L & T subsidiary Raykal Aluminium. Based on achieving certain milestones, VAL will fully acquire Raykal Aluminium in phases.<sup>[12]</sup>

**Madras Aluminium Company** Ltd: MALCO is headquartered in Mettur, India. MALCO's equity shares are listed and traded on the NSE and BSE. It owns 93.9% of MALCO's share capital and has management control of the company.

## **Iron ore** [\[edit\]](#)

**Sesa Goa** Limited: Sesa Goa is headquartered in [Panaji](#), India, and its equity shares are listed and traded on the NSE and BSE. Vedanta owns 57.1% of Sesa and has management control of the company.

## **Commercial power generation business** [\[edit\]](#)

**Sterlite Energy Limited**: Sterlite Energy is headquartered in Mumbai. Sterlite owns 100.0% of Sterlite Energy and has management control of the company.

## **Criticism** [\[edit\]](#)

---

### **Environmental damage** [\[edit\]](#)

Vedanta has been criticised by human rights and activist groups, including [Survival International](#), [Amnesty International](#) and Niyamgiri Surakshya Samiti because of the company's operations in Niyamgiri Hills in [Orissa](#), India that are said to threaten the lives of the [Dongria Kondh](#) people who populate this region.<sup>[13]</sup> The Niyamgiri hills are also claimed to be an important wildlife habitat in Eastern Ghats of India as per a report by the Wildlife Institute of India<sup>[14]</sup> as well as independent reports/studies carried out by civil society groups.<sup>[15]</sup> In January 2009, thousands of locals formed a human chain around the hill in protest at the plans to start [bauxite](#) mining in the area.<sup>[16]</sup> The Union Environment Ministry in August 2010 rejected earlier clearances granted to a joint venture led by the Vedanta Group company Sterlite Industries for mining bauxite from Niyamgiri hills.<sup>[17]</sup>

Vedanta's Alumina Refinery in Lanjigarh was criticised by the Orissa State Pollution Control Board (the statutory environmental regulation body) for air pollution and water pollution in the area. According to Amnesty International, local people reported dust from the plant settling on clothes, crops and food. Vedanta officials claimed there was no dust pollution from the plant at all.<sup>[18]</sup> An environmental inspection of the plant reported water pollution by the plant including increasing the pH value of the river Vamshadhara below the refinery and a high level of SPM in the stack emissions.<sup>[19]</sup>

In October 2009 it was reported that the British government has criticised Vedanta for its treatment of the Dongria Kondh tribe in Orissa, India.<sup>[20]</sup> The company refused to co-operate with the British government and with an [OECD](#) investigation. It has rejected charges of environmental damage, saying it may be related to the increased use of fertiliser by farmers.<sup>[18]</sup>

### **Safety concerns** [\[edit\]](#)

### **2007 Mining Deaths** [\[edit\]](#)

Unsafe mining operations led to 18 deaths and 1,246 injuries involving own employees and contractors in 2007.<sup>[21]</sup>

### **Balco, Korba, Chhattisgarh** [\[edit\]](#)

A chimney under construction by Gannon Dunkerley & Company at the Balco smelter in Korba, Chhattisgarh collapsed on 23 September 2009, killing at least 40 workers.<sup>[22]</sup> Balco and GDCL management have been accused of negligence in the incident.<sup>[23]</sup>

### **Litigation** [\[edit\]](#)

#### **Armenia** [\[edit\]](#)

In early 2007, the Armenian government began an investigation of AGRC, a subsidiary of Vedanta Resources, concerning compliance with licensing and tax regulations following independent media claims that AGRC submitted incorrect data in production reports relating to royalty payments and was in violation of licensing laws. AGRC was also served a preliminary notice of penalties and fines to the tune of about \$50 million (or 80% of its net assets).

#### **India** [\[edit\]](#)

In respect of bauxite mines at [Lanjigarh, Orissa, public interest litigations](#) were filed in 2004 by Indian non-government organisations led by the People's Union for Civil Liberties to the supreme court sub-committee regarding the potential environmental impact of the mines. The Ministry of Environment and Forests received reports from expert organisations and has submitted its recommendations to the supreme court.

The sub-committee has found "blatant violations" of environmental regulations and grave concerns about the impact of the Niyamgiri mine on both the environment and the local tribal population. The committee recommended to the court that mining in such an ecologically sensitive area should not be permitted.<sup>[24]</sup>

#### **Human rights** [\[edit\]](#)

In February 2010, the [Church of England](#) decided to disinvest from the company on ethical grounds.<sup>[25]</sup> According to the indigenous rights organisation [Survival International](#), the church's decision is extremely unusual, as it almost always prefers a policy of 'constructive engagement' to disinvesting.<sup>[26]</sup> The church said "we are not satisfied that Vedanta has shown, or is likely in future to show, the level of respect for human rights and local communities that we expect" and that "[it] would be inconsistent with the Church investing bodies' joint ethical investment policy".

The Director of Survival International, [Stephen Corry](#), said, "The Church's unprecedented and very welcome decision sends a strong signal to companies that trample on tribal peoples' rights: we will not bankroll your abuses. Anybody that has shares in Vedanta should sell them today if they care about human rights."<sup>[26]</sup>

Vedanta responded by expressing disappointment at the church's actions, and that it is "fully committed to pursuing its investments in a responsible manner, respecting the environment and human rights".<sup>[18]</sup>

The NGO [Amnesty International](#) has also criticised the company's record on human rights.<sup>[18][27]</sup> It has said, "[I]t is clear that Vedanta Resources and its subsidiaries [...] have failed to respect the human rights of the people of Lanjigarh and the Niyamgiri Hills" adding, "The proposed bauxite mine [...] threatens the survival of a protected Indigenous community [...] However, these risks have been largely ignored and consultation with and disclosure of information to affected communities have been almost non-existent."<sup>[28]</sup>

Following this controversy, several shareholders have joined in selling their shares because of human rights concerns. This includes the [Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust](#), the Marlborough Ethical Fund, Millfield House Foundation and [PGGM](#). The British and Norwegian governments have both condemned the project, and Martin Currie Investments has also disinvested following pressure from Survival. The BP Pension Fund has reduced its shareholding over similar concerns.<sup>[29]</sup> *The Economic Times* criticised the project in an editorial, stating that if the mine goes ahead it will "impoverish a defenceless populace, perhaps to extinction."<sup>[30]</sup> On July 2010, the [Chief Secretary](#) of the Indian state of [Orissa](#) ordered a new investigation into the rights of the Dongria Kondh tribe affected by Vedanta Resources' bauxite mine, in what Survival International characterised as the "...third major blow to Vedanta in a month". The announcement came two weeks after the [Indian Minister of Environment and Forests](#) ordered an investigation on the same topic. A government investigation published in March concluded that Vedanta's mine 'may lead to the destruction of the Dongria Kondh'.<sup>[31]</sup>

A four-member panel set up by government of India in the Ministry of Environment and Forests investigated the bauxite mining proposal over Niyamgiri near Lanjigarh in the districts of Kalahandi and Rayagada in Orissa. The area has been traditional habitat of two particularly vulnerable tribal groups, the

Dongria Kondh and the Kutia Kondh. The committee submitted its report on 16 August 2010, saying "The Vedanta Company has consistently violated the Forest Conservation Act [FCA], the Forest Rights Act [FRA], the Environment Protection Act [EPA] and the Orissa Forest Act in active collusion with the State officials. . . .Allowing mining ... by depriving two primitive tribal groups of their rights over the proposed mining site to benefit a private company would shake the faith of the tribal people in the laws of the land".<sup>[32]</sup> Based on a panel report, the government of India has served a show cause notice on the company on why its Stage I environment clearance should not be cancelled.<sup>[33]</sup>

### Legal violations [edit]

In July 2010, Sterlite Industries, a subsidiary of Vedanta Group, was slapped a tax notice of about ₹3.24 billion (US\$54 million), and charged with violating several rules by the excise department in India.<sup>[34]</sup>

Charging Sterlite Industries for misdeclaration, excise officials said the company tried to ship out copper waste for separating gold and silver whereas the waste also contained other precious metals like platinum and palladium.<sup>[35]</sup>

### References [edit]

- ↑  **a b c** "Annual Results 2013".
- ↑ "Annual Report 2012".
- ↑  **a b** "About Us". Vedanta Resources plc. Retrieved 1 September 2010.
- ↑ "What We Do". Vedanta Resources plc. Retrieved 1 September 2010.
- ↑ "Commercial Power Generation Business". Vedanta Resources plc. Retrieved 1 September 2010.
- ↑ Who is Anil Agarwal? Daily Telegraph, 16 August 2010
- ↑ Indian mining Vedanta IPO to raise at least \$876 mln Market Watch, 5 December 2003
- ↑ Vedanta to buy stake in Sterlite Gold for Rs 285 cr Business Times, 14 June 2006
- ↑ Sterlite raises \$2 billion via ADR Bloomberg, 30 June 2007
- ↑ Vedanta unit buys Asarco out of Chapter 11 at \$2.6B Market Watch, 1 June 2008
- ↑ Vedanta completes Cairn India deal Times of India, 8 December 2011
- ↑ "Vedanta Aluminium acquires 24.5% stake in L&T subsidiary". 11 June 2012.
- ↑ "British mining company threatens sacred mountain". Survival-international.org. Retrieved 1 August 2010.
- ↑ "Studies on impact of proposed Lanjigarh Bauxite Mining on biodiversity including wildlife and its habitat". Freewebs.com. Retrieved 1 August 2010.
- ↑ "A brief report on Ecological and Biodiversity importance of Niyamgiri Hill and implications of Bauxite Mining". Freewebs.com. Retrieved 1 August 2010.
- ↑ Sahu, Sandeep (27 January 2009). "Indians protest over mining plans". BBC News. Retrieved 30 September 2009.
- ↑ "Vedanta would invest \$2 billion less in India". business.rediff.com. Retrieved 25 Oct 2010.
- ↑  **a b c d** "India refinery 'threatens health of local community'". BBC News. 9 February 2010. Retrieved 9 February 2010.
- ↑ Nayak, C.R., *Inspection Report on M/S. Vedanta Alumnum Limited, Lanjigarh, Dist: Kalahandi*
- ↑ "UK Government blasts Vedanta for mistreatment of Oriya tribals". Thaindian.com. 12 October 2009. Retrieved 1 August 2010.
- ↑ "Vedanta Annual Report 2007" (PDF). p. 38. Retrieved 1 August 2010.
- ↑ "Balco chimney crash deaths climb to 26, dozens still trapped". Thaindian.com. 24 September 2009. Retrieved 1 August 2010.
- ↑ "India chimney collapse kills 22". BBC News. 23 September 2009. Retrieved 1 August 2010.
- ↑ Indian Supreme Court's Central Empowered Committee (2005) Report in IA No. 1324 regarding the alumina refinery plant being set up by M/S Vedanta Alumina Limited at Lanjigarh in **Kalahandi** District, Orissa
- ↑ "Church of England sells Vedanta shares over Orissa human rights". News.in.msn.com. Retrieved 1 August 2010.
- ↑  **a b** "Church takes 'unprecedented' step to sell stake in Vedanta". Survivalinternational.org. Retrieved 1 August 2010.
- ↑ "Don't Mine Us out of Existence - Amnesty International". Amnesty.org. 9 February 2010. Retrieved 1 August 2010.
- ↑ "Amnesty slams Vedanta Resources". Survivalinternational.org. Retrieved 1 August 2010.
- ↑ "Survival applauds Rowntree decision to sell Vedanta shares over ethical concerns". Survivalinternational.org. Retrieved 1 August 2010.
- ↑ Stop the Vedanta Project in Orissa The Economic Times 17 Mar 2010
- ↑ "Third blow for Vedanta in a month as mine faces new probe". Survivalinternational.org. Retrieved 1 August 2010.
- ↑ "Don't clear Vedanta's Mining Project: Panel". The Hindu newspaper. Retrieved 17 August 2010.

- 33. ^ Panel report 
- 34. ^ PTI (26 July 2010). "Business / Companies : Sterlite Industries facing tax demand of Rs. 324 cr" . The Hindu. Retrieved 1 August 2010.
- 35. ^ Sterlite Industries charged for evading duty 

## External links [edit]

- Official website 



V · T · E ·

**FTSE 100** ←  **FTSE 250 companies of the United Kingdom**

[show]

V · T · E ·

**Energy in the United Kingdom**

[show]

Categories: [Companies established in 1976](#) | [Companies listed on the London Stock Exchange](#) | [Copper mining companies](#) | [Diamond mining companies](#) | [Gold mining companies of Australia](#) | [Gold mining companies of the United Kingdom](#) | [Iron ore mining companies](#) | [Silver mining companies](#) | [Mining companies of Australia](#) | [Mining companies of the United Kingdom](#) | [Companies based in London](#) | [Mining companies of India](#) | [Aluminium companies of India](#)

This page was last modified on 28 May 2014 at 13:11.

Text is available under the [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License](#); additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the [Wikimedia Foundation, Inc.](#), a non-profit organization.

[Privacy policy](#) [About Wikipedia](#) [Disclaimers](#) [Contact Wikipedia](#) [Developers](#) [Mobile view](#)

