

ESL Steel Limited takes caring for the environment seriously and has announced an ambitious Plantation Drive of 1.5 Lakh plants for 2024/25

- *Plantation Drive started to coincide with UNEP declared World Environment Day on June 5*
- *Theme for World Environment Day 2024 are Land Restoration, Desertification & Drought Resilience*
- *Environmental Consciousness, Awareness & Action Week at ESL Steel Limited included Awareness Sessions at Excel 30 Classes & through Suraksha Vahan, Departmental Quiz & Fun Sessions, Poster making, Online Quiz, Photography & Videography contests apart from Plantation Drive*

Bokaro | 6th June 2024: ESL Steel Limited, a Bokaro-based Vedanta Group Company, is a leading integrated steel producer of India which always, is, and will continue to work tirelessly for the benefit & welfare of the society and community in areas it is present. We have been felicitated with numerous awards by various reputed national/international governmental organisations and NGOs for our commitment to our societal and community development endeavours.

Today, keeping in mind the pressing need to contribute to arresting the deteriorating environmental parameters in India and the rest of the world **the Health, Safety, Environment & Sustainability (HSES) department of ESL Steel Limited organized a Plantation Drive** on UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme) declared World Environment Day. It was also the culmination of a week-long **Environmental Consciousness, Awareness & Action Week celebrations** in the plant.

World Environment Day on 5 June is led by UNEP and held annually since 1973. The event has grown to be the largest global platform for environmental outreach, with millions of people worldwide engaging to protect the planet. UNEP is the leading global voice on the environment. It provides leadership and encourages partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations. This year's theme for World Environment Day is **Land Restoration, Desertification, and Drought Resilience**.

To coincide with this year's World Environment Day Celebration a week-long **Environmental Consciousness, Awareness & Action Week** was celebrated in ESL Steel Limited. These celebrations started on the 23rd of May and were organised by the HSES department touched nearly all the employees in the organisation and included Awareness Sessions at Excel 30 Classes & through Suraksha Vahan, Departmental Quizzes & Fun Sessions, Poster making competitions, Online Quizzes, Photography & Videography contests apart from the ambitious Plantation Drive to plant 1.5 Lakh plants.

Mr. Ravish Sharma, Chief Operating Officer at ESL Steel Limited said to those assembled, "I would like to stress the fact that Environment affects us all and hence we all should take care of Mother Nature – it cannot be left to any other person. The "One-point-five" declaration accepted at the 2015 UN Climate Summit in Paris, popularly known as the Paris Agreement means that by the year 2100, all 195 countries, organisations, and individuals must strive to contain the world's average surface temperature to not rise more than 1.5°C than the pre-industrial revolution levels."

He added, "We have pledged to plant 1.5 Lakh plants in 2024/25 and this is our effort towards "One-point-five" declaration. For us, it is an ambitious plan but a small step considering that India must plant around 400 to 500 million plants to contain the effects of climate change. But we are taking our motivation from the oft-repeated poetry by Dushyant Kumar '*Kaise aakash me suraakh naheen ho sakta; Ek patthar to tabeeyat se uchhaalo yaaro*' (There are many wonderful things that will never be done if you do not try)."

To coincide with the UNEP declared World Environment Day and the culmination of a week-long Environmental Consciousness, Awareness & Action Week at ESL Steel Limited there was a congregation of around 150 ESL Steel Limited employees which included Mr. Ravish Sharma, COO, ESL Steel Limited; Mr. Anand Dubey, CFO, ESL Steel Limited; Ms. Meenakshi Sabharwal, CQO and Head Business Excellence; Ms. Shyamlee Minz, CHRO where after the lamp lighting a pledge was taken to be environmentally conscious and to help in the ESL Steel Limited's strive towards the ambitious 1.5 lakh plant-strong plantation drive.

This year's World Environment Day celebrations were organised by the HSES department under the able leadership of Mr. K. Sandeep, Head - HSES, ESL. It also saw the participation of other ESL Steel Company

Leaders like Mr. Tapes Chandra Naskar, Director, DIP; Mr. Amrit Mukherjee, Director, Central Engineering; Mr. Saroj Kumar Singh, Director, Steel; and Mr. Amal Ghosh, Director, Projects who all came together to felicitate the winners of various competitions and motivate their participation for all year-round efforts.

About Vedanta ESL Steel Limited:

Located in Siyaljori village in the Bokaro district of Jharkhand, ESL Steel Limited is a leading manufacturer of steel products. It has a 2.5 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) greenfield integrated steel plant that produces pig iron, billets, TMT bars, wire rods, and ductile iron pipes. The plant works in sync with the prescribed environmental standards, bringing international expertise and solutions from reputed manufacturers to offer world-class services and products.



