

**Justification for Prospecting in Forest Land**

Vedanta Limited has successfully won the Composite Licence (Prospecting-cum-Mining Lease) Baghmara Gold block and accordingly Chhattisgarh Government has issued a LOI no 3-11/16/12 dated 28 April 2014 for conducting detailed prospecting for gold mineralisation. Further Chhattisgarh State Mineral Resource Department has issued a letter with a revised area (474.3 ha) vide letter no. F 3-11/16/12, dated 17.03.2017 in order to keep the block > 1 km. away from Barnawapara Sanctuary. Baghmara block was previously explored for gold by the Directorate of Geology and Mining in two phases between 1981 and 1990 and subsequently from 2004 to 2007 part of the Project was drilled by the Geological Survey of India ("GSI") up to Preliminary Exploration (G3) stage.

Vedanta Limited needs to undertake detailed mineral prospecting in the forest area inside the Baghmara Gold block area in compliance with the order of F No. 11-96/2009- FC, Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division), dated 4th July, 2014, for assessing the reserves under UNFC/ JORC classification for the entire block for the following reasons as given below:

- a) To explore the forest area within the leasehold in detail so that Baghmara gold deposit would be quantified more precisely and clearly known to us w.r.t. quantity and quality.
- b) To upgrade the category of the resources as per UNFC/ JORC nomenclature to increase the confidence level.
- c) It requires quantifying & enhancing the resources for economically minable deposit as per UNFC / JORC nomenclature.
- d) This exploration campaign will also establish the possibilities of strike and deep extensions of the earlier known mineralization zones as well as new target areas.

For Vedanta Limited  
  
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