

What the world has to say

Norwegian government

(Government pension fund Council on Ethics)

In the case of the Dongaria Kondh it has been shown that the tribe will probably face extinction if Vedanta is granted clearance for the planned mining operation in the Niyamgiri Hills, Orissa.

[There is] a pattern of behaviour where such violations are accepted and have become an integral part of corporate practice. This pattern represents an unacceptable risk that the company's unethical practice will continue in the future.

International Labour Organization

[We wish] to express concern over the reported adverse impact on the Dongria Kondh of the bauxite mining and processing activities on the lands which they traditionally occupy and which appear to be central to their very existence.

Aviva Investments

The fact that [Vedanta] seem to have not just disengaged but almost treated the whole [OECD] process with disdain is of considerable concern.

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust

Vedanta is pushing industrialization to the detriment of the lives and lands of local people. This behaviour may be legal but is morally indefensible.

UK government

(UK NCP for OECD Guidelines, part of BIS)

[Vedanta] did not respect the rights of the Dongria Kondh [and] did not consider the impact of the construction of the mine on the [tribe's] rights.

Church of England

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

Expert Indian government panel #1 (Ms. Usha Ramanathan, March 2010)

[The mine] may lead to the destruction of the Dongria Kondh [as a tribe]. This is too serious a consequence to ignore.

Expert Indian government panel #2 (Dr Saxena and team, August 2010)

Since [Vedanta] has repeatedly violated the law, allowing it further access to the proposed mining lease area at the cost of the rights of the Kutia and Dongria Kondh, will have serious consequences for the security and well being of the entire country.

[Vedanta's behaviour indicates] total contempt for the law on the part of the company and an appalling degree of collusion on the part of the concerned officials.

Amnesty International

[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.