**London Mining Network**

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18 July 2017

**For the attention of Tom Albanese, CEO of Vedanta Resources**

**c.c. Deepak Kumar, company secretary.**

Dear Mr Albanese,

As you are well aware, members of London Mining Network have been attending the Vedanta annual general meetings in London over the last 10 years in the hope that some of the points we raise will lead to changes in the way the company operates and affects particularly the poorer people who either work for the company or who live around its operations.

We are writing to you in the hope that you can intervene to help resolve issues around an accident that has happened at Sterlite’s Tuticorin Copper refinery in Tamil Nadu. As you are aware this is operated by one of Vedanta’s subsidiaries and is managed by Vedanta.

In the early hours of Saturday 18 March Kartheepan, age 31, s/o Nallakutty, Palayapuram village, Meelavittan Post, Thoothukudi, was engaged by contractor Operational Energy Group Ltd to do some maintenance work on a conveyor belt at the Phosphoric Acid Plant at Sterlite’s copper smelter in Thoothukudi. But before the work could be completed, the belt was switched on, sucking the young man's left arm in all the way up to his armpit. He suffered serious injuries and initially had part of his hand amputated. It was said by doctors at the time that it would have been possible to save his hand had he been sent to a hospital more quickly. According to eye witness accounts the Sterlite Copper manager did not want the young man to be seen in the Sterlite company ambulance and so they had to wait three hours for another ambulance to be sent. I have attached some photos for you to see of the accident.

Sadly in the last few days we have learnt that due to the initial delay in getting the young man to a hospital things have got worse and now half his wrist has been amputated in the hope that the remaining part of his arm will recover. Local groups are now asking Sterlite Copper to ensure that the young man's surgery, right up to neural surgery and rehabilitation, is fully taken care of by the company so that Kartheepan gets the best possible treatment.

We are sure that you are aware that in Indian law the owner of the factory is ultimately responsible for what happens on the premises. As these requests have been largely ignored by the management at Sterlite Copper we are asking you to intervene to ensure that Sterlite pay for his medical care, including the neural surgery which is now required. This young man also needs a decent ex gratia payment so that this accident does not have a severe detrimental effect on his future and that of his family. He is recently married and has a baby son, but will not be able to work for the foreseeable future. They are also asking for a sum to be deposited to take care of his now one-year old son's education right up to college.

We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Solly,

Co-ordinator.