

Response from Adani Group to “People power under pressure: Human rights defenders & business in 2023” report

1 May 2024

The Business & Human Rights Resource Centre invited Adani Group to respond to:

- [“People power under pressure: Human rights defenders & business in 2023”](#), Business & Human Rights Resource Centre, 7 May 2024
- [“Repression against Indigenous rights activists opposing bauxite mining in Odisha,”](#) Indigenous Peoples Rights International, 6 September 2023
- [“HRD Alert – Urgent Appeal for Action – Odisha – Rayagada: illegal arrest and torture of the HRDs opposing the renewal of Mining lease of Vedanta at Siji Mali,”](#) Human Rights Defenders’ Alert – India, 2 September 2023
- [“Odisha: Tribal groups protest against lease of forestland to Vedanta, Adani for bauxite mining,”](#) The Telegraph Online, 19 September 2023
- [“25 persons have been arrested in the last three weeks in three districts – Such arrests are for mining bauxite of Vedanta Co, Adani Co, and HINDALCO,”](#) Countercurrents.org, 28 August 2023

Adani Group sent the following response:

“The information you have shared is factually incorrect and misleading to your stakeholders. There has been no protest against us or our legitimate project, awarded through competitive bidding by the government under the stringent regulatory and legal framework. As a responsible organisation, we work closely with local communities and authorities to develop projects that promote socioeconomic progress and employment.

There has been no violation of any legal process for Kutrumali Block mining lease, and the incidents mentioned in your communication are not related to Adani Group's project. As per the legal and regulatory framework, the district administration is obligated to convene Gramsabha for mining lease.

I reiterate that mentioning Adani’s name out of context, claiming *that ‘indigenous communities have been raising concerns about human rights and environmental risks related to proposed projects’* is unethical, biased and completely unacceptable to us.

We request you to refrain from mentioning our name in this incident report. We reiterate that there has been no protest against us or our legitimate project, which was awarded through competitive bidding by the government under the stringent regulatory and legal framework.”