

DEMAND DIGNITY



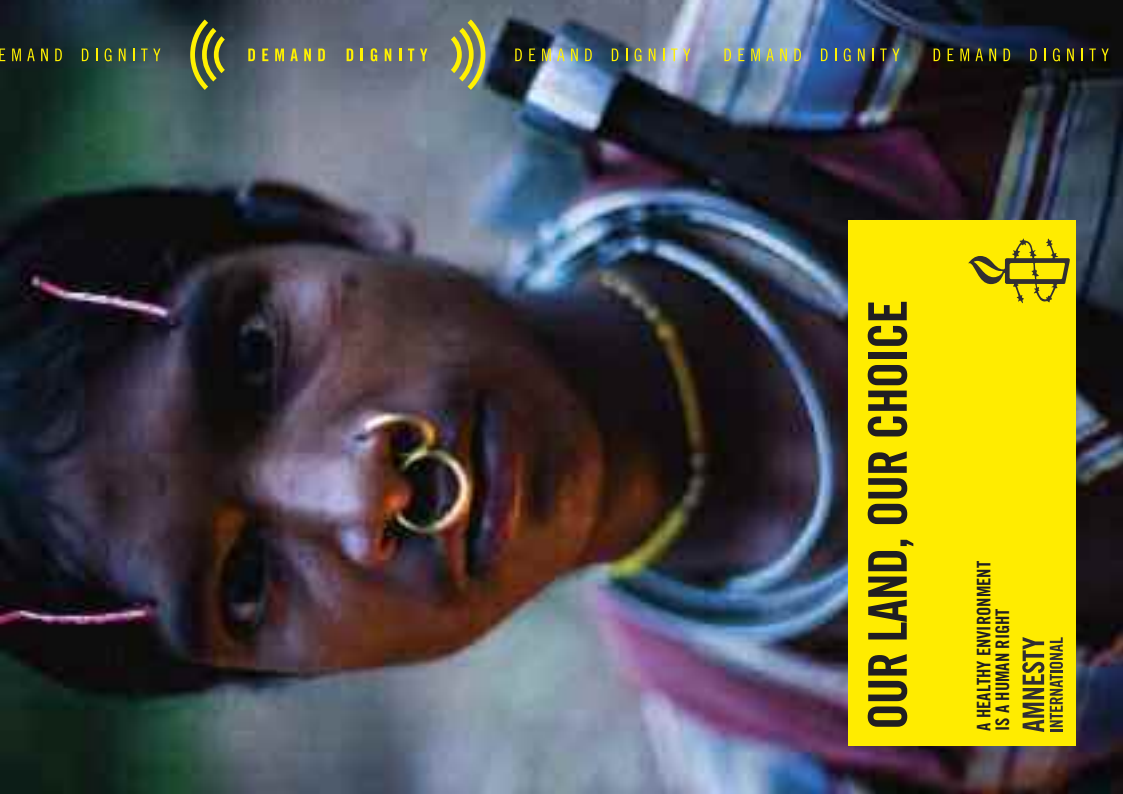
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# OUR LAND, OUR CHOICE

A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT  
IS A HUMAN RIGHT

**AMNESTY**  
INTERNATIONAL





**Dear Chief Minister,**

Vedanta's operations in Lanjigarh, Orissa, have caused environmental damage and undermined livelihoods in neighbouring communities. Nevertheless, Vedanta Aluminium is planning a six-fold expansion of its refinery while Sterlite (another Vedanta company) is also poised to begin mining bauxite, along with the Orissa government's Mining Corporation, in the nearby Niyamgiri Hills. Both projects will have a devastating impact on the rights to health, water and work of Majhi Kondh and Dongria Kondh adivasis. Yet these communities have not been effectively consulted or properly informed about these projects.

I urge you to:

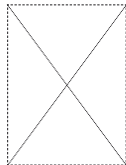
- refuse the proposed expansion and mining plans until a thorough assessment of their human rights and environmental impacts is carried out.
- ensure that you obtain the free, prior and informed consent of the affected communities on the proposed projects.

Yours sincerely,

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_



Mr Naveen Patnaik  
Chief Minister  
Naveen Nivas  
Aerodrome Road  
Bhubaneswar 751 001  
India

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*Image:* Bali Sikaka, one of the many people from the Dongria Kondh community whose way of life will be threatened if the bauxite mine goes ahead in the Niyamgiri Hills, June 2008. © Sanjit Das/Amnesty International

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