



**SCIENCE
MUSEUM
GROUP** **an unravelling
tragedy**

Science Museum Group: an unravelling tragedy

The story behind Adani, coal giant and corporate sponsor

First published March 2023

Fossil Free Science Museum

Front cover image: Adivasi women march against Adani's coal mines in the central Indian state of Chhattisgarh. Photo © Vijay Ramamurthy.

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Appendix

In October 2021, a new chapter began for the Science Museum Group when it was announced that Adani, the Indian multinational conglomerate renowned for its investments in coal mining and power stations, would be the sponsor of the Museum's new climate gallery.

But, in order to sidestep the toxic association with Adani's coal projects, the deal was signed under the name of its renewable energy wing. 'Energy Revolution: the Adani Green Energy Gallery' was born.

This book tells a true story about 'energy revolution' – the story of a struggle between Adani, a major polluter and corporate sponsor, and those on the ground who are leading the resistance to its impacts on Indigenous communities and the climate.

Much of this book brings to life the impacts that the Museum already knew about, from its own due diligence reports on the Adani Group in December 2020 and on Adani Green Energy in January 2021. The book ends with those stories that the Museum overlooked or even ignored, particularly around the long-running resistance, legal action and violence associated with Adani's coal mining activities on Indigenous lands in India and the controversy surrounding Adani's acquisition of land, excessive water use, pollution and threats to endangered species.

Image on the right: As original sovereign people of a vast area of unceded land in the Galilee Basin in central-western Queensland, the Wangan and Jagalingou Nagana Yarrbayn Cultural Custodians are acting to protect their land and water from Adani's Carmichael coal mine. Photo courtesy Wangan and Jagalingou – Standing Our Ground.





Foreword by Adrian Burragubba, spokesperson for the Wangan and Jagalingou Family Council and senior cultural custodian

The Science Museum should be respecting the fundamental human rights of Indigenous peoples. Instead, Director Ian Blatchford has dismissed us and chosen to support Adani, a company that is destroying our land and violating our rights.

Every step of the way, Adani has used lies and deception to persecute my people, interfere in our decision making processes, and undermine our rights to self-determination. Adani's coal mine has no Free, Prior and Informed consent from Wangan and Jagalingou people. We know the damage this mine will cause to our ancestral homelands and we continue to oppose it.

Adani's corporate behaviour is in clear violation of human rights, not only of Indigenous people in Australia, but Indigenous people all around the world. Adani works to shut Indigenous people up, to criminalise us, and bankrupt us. Adani is not a good corporate citizen.

Foreword by London Youth Climate Action Network (previously UKSCN London)

From school trips to holiday visits and even sleepovers, for many of us the Science Museum has been an important part of our childhoods. The Museum has represented a place of inspiration, education and cutting-edge innovation.

It is a betrayal to the children they aim to educate and inspire that they are deep in the pockets of oil companies. And even more so, it shows an appalling disregard for the communities worldwide being devastated by Shell, Adani and other fossil fuel companies that the Museum works with.

We hope this book educates readers on the truth behind who the Science Museum supports. We will not stand for greenwashing. We will not stand for upholding wrongdoing. This museum is ours; it is not for corporate greed.

A CHALLENGE TO THE TRUSTEES

The Science Museum relies on its trustees and advisors, named over the page, to protect its reputation. As guardians of the Science Museum's mission and reputation, how much do the former and current trustees and advisors know?

Published in November 2020, the Science Museum's new Sustainability Policy stated that the Museum is "committed to working with funders who are also on a journey to decarbonise. We will do this by assessing prospective and current partners using the independent Transition Pathway Initiative (TPI) tool and encouraging them to work towards level three or better on the TPI."

As part of the trustees' legal duty to protect the Museum's reputation, due diligence checks are crucial, as laid out in the Museum Association's Code of Ethics.

In this case the Science Museum Group (SMG) put together a due diligence report but didn't fully take account of its findings.

The Science Museum's own due diligence report into the Adani Group in December 2020 – completed just one month after the adoption of this new policy – observed that Adani Enterprises was given the lowest possible TPI score of one.

The SMG subsequently sought to discount this conflict by claiming that its partnership is solely with Adani's renewables subsidiary, Adani Green Energy, despite Director Ian Blatchford corresponding with and making the original sponsorship proposal to the Adani Group.



Ian Blatchford (L) with Gautam Adani (second from R). In November 2021, Channel 4 News reported on how the Science Museum's contract with Adani Green Energy includes a 'gagging clause', identical to one signed with the oil giant Shell earlier that year, which triggered a major backlash among the scientific community.

As such, the original due diligence report was never shared with the trustees; instead they were presented with a basic due diligence report on Adani Green Energy. This second report appears to have been created rapidly when the SMG decided that Adani Green Energy would be the title sponsor for the new gallery, apparently in an attempt to distance itself from the controversies associated with other parts of the Adani Group.

However, just as the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) recommends corporate emissions targets be set at parent company level, not the subsidiary, so too must trustees look at the Science Museum Group's relationship with the Adani Group as a whole, as will the public.

Our challenge to trustees is this: have you read both due diligence reports? Are you content to accept the excuse that the sponsorship was signed under the name of the green energy subsidiary of the Adani Group? Have you expressed your concern but decided to stay in post? What can you do going forward to turn the tide on this shameful deal?

We cannot answer these questions. Only each trustee and advisor, with their own conscience, can. But we believe that to continue condoning Adani Green Energy as a sponsor is to greenwash the whole Adani Group's crimes against people and the planet, as well as contradicting the Science Museum Group's own policies.

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Dr Sarah Dry argued against taking sponsorship from Adani, and Dr Jo Foster and Dr Hannah Fry (all Trustees in 2021) resigned over the issue two weeks after it was announced.

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Prof Chris Rapley and Dr Hannah Fry (Advisory Board members in 2021) resigned over the SMG's stance on fossil fuel sponsorship.

1 Trusteeship started 2022

2 Trusteeship ended 2021


3 Trusteeship ended 2022

4 Membership started 2022

5 Membership ended 2021

6 Membership started 2021

7 Membership ended 2022



**Until fossil fuel companies ...
genuinely pay for the damage
they are wreaking, museums
of science have a duty not to
promote their brands.**

Prof James Hansen, climate scientist

Chapter 1

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS, FINES AND LITIGATION

Due Diligence: Adani Group, SMG (December 2020)

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The following paragraphs summarise content from the SMG's due diligence report, sections entitled 'Criminal Investigations', 'Fines and Litigation' and 'Environmental Issues' (see appendix).

Adani Enterprises has been accused of engaging in illegal activities by one of its own lawyers. These alleged activities were in relation to the construction of a solar plant in Tamil Nadu, India. The lawyer's allegations included that Adani was involved in illegal land purchases, as well as submitting fraudulent documents.

The SMG's due diligence report lists multiple criminal investigations, major fines and examples of litigation. The section on criminal investigations (many of which were ongoing at the time the report was written) outlines arrests of employees for corrupt practices, charges of bribery and illegal exports, investigations over tax evasion, money laundering and financial fraud, collusion with officials to gain contracts, and fraud to manipulate coal supplies.



Adani's Abbot Point coal terminal, pictured in February 2019 after the coal spill into Caley Valley wetlands. Photo courtesy Australian Conservation Foundation.



“

No amount of political patronage will ever be able to sweep under the carpet the illegalities, non-compliance and surreptitious circumvention of procedure.

Kabilan Manoharan, lawyer

In addition, the report covers fines by the Competition Commission of India on Adani Gas for imposing unfair conditions and abusing its market position; on Adani Ports for non-compliance of listing regulations; and a fine of \$106.8 million AUS from the Supreme Court in Brisbane for not offering reasonable charges to access its Queensland coal terminal.

The report also details major fines imposed on Adani Group for causing environmental damage, including a fine of \$12,190 by the Government of Queensland, Australia, for dumping water containing over eight times the permitted amount of sediment into the sea at its Abbot Point port, which may have reached the Great Barrier Reef (2017); and a fine of £500,000 by the National Green Tribunal of India in response to the 2011 sinking of a ship containing 60,000 metric tonnes of coal off the South Mumbai coast, causing huge environmental damage (2016).

RELATIONSHIP TO MODI

Due Diligence: Adani Group, SMG (December 2020)

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The following information is directly extracted in full from the SMG's due diligence report (see appendix).

Gautam Adani, Chairman and Founder of the Adani Group, has reportedly close ties to Prime Minister Modi of India (BJP party). Their relationship has been criticised as being a source of cronyism and corruption with the Indian government.

In December 2017, the National Indian Congress Party accused the BJP led government of buying electricity from Adani at massively inflated prices to benefit the company and causing massive losses to public finances.

In 2018, the Indian Government approved the privatisation of 6 airports by the Adani Group, despite the company having no relevant experience in airport management. This was criticised as cronyism by the Keralan State Finance Minister and was described as a clear case of

corruption by the National Indian Congress Party. In November 2020, the Keralan state government challenged the privatisation and transfer of ownership of the Thiruvananthapuram International Airport to the Adani Group in the Supreme Court.

In September 2018, the Indian Congress Party accused the BJP Government of helping the Adani Group to cover up their alleged scams by halting or prematurely ending investigations into the company's alleged criminal activities.

In January 2020, the National Indian Congress Party alleged that the Modi Government had flouted procurement procedure to allow the Adani Group to participate in the manufacturing of submarines for the Indian Navy.



*Prime Minister Modi inaugurates 'Invest Madhya Pradesh - Global Investors Summit 2014'.
Photo credit Government Open Data License - India (GODL).*

“

**Adani is close to Modi,
and this is Modi's home
state...**

**... so Adani can do
whatever he wants.**

Union official, Gujarat
(speaking on condition of anonymity)

Chapter 3

WORKER CONDITIONS

Due Diligence: Adani Group, SMG (December 2020)



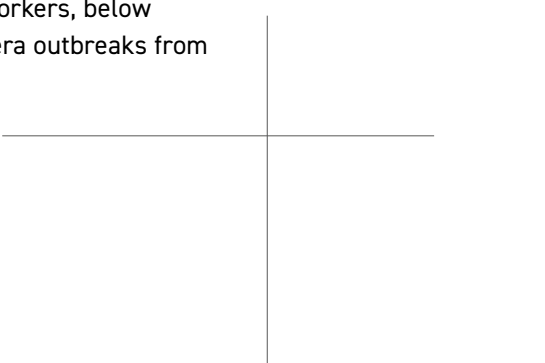
Image on the right: Adani's Mundra Thermal Power Station in Mundra, Gujarat, seen from the Tragadi fishing community settlement. Many in the community feel a sense of resignation, unable to counter the scale of transformation taking place around them, according to Programme for Social Action India. The coal for the power plant is imported primarily from Banyu, Indonesia. Photo courtesy Programme for Social Action India.




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The following information is directly extracted in full from the SMG's due diligence report (see appendix).

In 2014 an investigation by Fairfax Media, a media company in Australia, into the treatment of Adani Group construction workers in India found evidence of lax safety and sanitation standards, underage workers, below minimum wage pay, and regular cholera outbreaks from contaminated drinking water.





Because there are no toilets, everyone must practise open defecation, so the ground water that is used for drinking water is being polluted and infected, and that is why we have seen so many cholera outbreaks.

Dr Jagani, Chief District Health Officer, Gujarat

Chapter 4

HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

Due Diligence: Adani Group, SMG (December 2020)

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The following information is directly extracted in full from the SMG's due diligence report (see appendix).

In May 2019, the Adani Group reportedly signed a US \$290 million commercial deal with the Myanmar Economic Corporation (MEC), to develop a port. The MEC is controlled by the Myanmar armed forces, who have been accused by UN investigators of committing genocide and crimes against humanity against the Rohingya community. Adani says its deal violates no Australian, US, UN or other international sanctions, and rejected suggestions the investment was unethical or would compromise human rights. This commercial deal was criticised as helping fund crimes against humanity and enriching the individuals behind the persecution of the Rohingya.

In October 2021, Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) announced plans to exit its investment in Myanmar by June 2022.



*Senior General Min Aung Hlaing (centre) and Karan Adani, son of Gautam Adani and CEO of Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited (far right), tour Adani Ports' Mundra Port, India (July 2019).
Source: CINCDS.gov.mm / Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services*



**Put simply, the military
commanders who ultimately
control [the Myanmar
Economic Corporation]
belong in prison...**

**... rather than a boardroom
cutting deals with foreign
investors like Adani.**

Phil Robertson, deputy Asia director of Human Rights Watch


CARMICHAEL COAL MINE

Due Diligence: Adani Group,
SMG (December 2020)

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The following information is directly extracted from the SMG's due diligence report (see appendix). The SMG's report needed more than two pages to relate the damaging impacts of, and controversy around, Adani's Carmichael mine. This is an edited version of this section.

In 2014, the Australian Government approved the development of the largest coal mine in Australia, potentially the largest in the world, by the Adani Group, the Carmichael Coal Mine. The mine is located in the north of the Galilee Basin in Central Queensland. [...] The approval of the mine was criticised by environmental groups, including Greenpeace, for its potential impact on the environment, specifically the mine's potential impact on the Great Barrier Reef, groundwater at its site and its high carbon emissions. [...] Following several legal challenges, construction began in June 2019.




The mine will tear the heart out of our country, permanently destroying our ancestral homelands, as well as sites and species we have held sacred for generations. This threatens the survival of our culture, and our ability to pass that culture onto our future generations.

Wangan and Jagalingou Tribal elder, Adrian Burragubba



Dozens of people including New South Wales Parliamentarians Jeremy Buckingham and Dawn Walker took part in a mass trespass on and blockade of Adani's preliminary rail construction work in the Galilee Basin, Central Queensland (December 2017). Photo Julian Meehan, Creative Commons CC-by-SA



In July 2019, Adani was subject to a legal challenge by a minority group of the indigenous traditional owners of the land, the Wangan and Jagalingou people. The aim of the legal challenge was to invalidate an Indigenous land-use agreement (ILUA) previously approved by seven of 12 native title applicants. The judges unanimously ruled in favour of Adani, stating that the agreement met the legal requirements of the Native Title Act. This judgement was partially due to an authorisation meeting of the Wangan and Jagalingou that voted 294-1 in favour of the land use agreement. However, ABC reported that this authorisation meeting was boycotted by those opposed to the deal, and the official numbers are disputed by attendants at the meeting. Adani was also accused of paying people to vote in favour of the deal.

[...]

There have been numerous protests against the Carmichael Mine Project.

[...] In August 2020, members of Wangan and Jagalingou people, who are the traditional owners of the land the mine is located on, protested the development of Adani's Carmichael coalmine by blocking workers from reaching the construction site. In 2019, the Australian Government had granted Adani over 1,385 hectares of Wangan and Jagalingou land for the mine. The Wangan and Jagalingou protestors stated that this was a violation of their sovereign and territorial integrity.

Chapter 6

CLIMATE IMPACTS OF COAL

Omitted from Due Diligence:
Adani Group, SMG (December 2020)

*Image on the right: Aerial image showing Adani's Carmichael open cut coal pit in November 2021.
Photo credit Stop Adani.*







Investing in fossil fuels means more deaths and illness and rising healthcare costs. It is, simply put, a human disaster and bad economics.

António Guterres, UN Secretary-General

Adani Group is an Indian multinational conglomerate, headquartered in Ahmedabad, engaged in a vast array of businesses, including coal-fired power stations, ports, palm oil, airports, defence industries, solar power, real estate and gas.

Adani's rapidly expanding coal extraction and coal-fired power stations will have a severe impact on the climate. In 2020, the UN Secretary-General António Guterres made a plea directly to India to phase out coal as it will lock in high-emissions infrastructure for decades to come and destroy any hope of staving off climate breakdown. The UN's International Panel on Climate Change and the International Energy Agency have both warned that reaching net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 means no new coal developments as of 2021.

A 2022 report by Oxfam quantifies the carbon footprints of the investments of the world's billionaires. Gautam Adani came close to topping the list, with six of his group's companies documented as emitting a carbon equivalent total of almost 30 million tonnes per annum. These greenhouse gases are spewed into the Earth's atmosphere by Adani's coal-power stations, gas installations and coal mines, with Adani's ports and railways adding to this toxic toll by transporting colossal quantities of coal.

While the new 'Energy Revolution' gallery will focus on climate change, the SMG's due diligence reports entirely ignore the climate impacts of coal, even though the greenhouse gas emissions from Adani Group's coal programme will push human society 7% of the way towards a rise in global temperatures of 1.5 degrees (source: Adani Watch).

Chapter 7

ADIVASI RESISTANCE

Omitted from Due Diligence:
Adani Group, SMG (December 2020)

The Adani Group has been involved in destroying ancient forests – including the ancestral lands of Adivasi (Indigenous) people – ruining livelihoods and facing strong resistance from local people.

In the central east of India, the Hasdeo forest has become a battlefield between Adani's massive mining operations and local people defending an ancient and sustainable way of life, with some 18 major coal blocks located in a landscape of high biodiversity and which is inhabited by Adivasi communities. The area is home to a diverse array of mammals (including elephants), fish, reptiles, birds and over 80 species of tree.

Local people have tended these forests, including sacred groves of trees, for hundreds of years.

This resistance movement in Hasdeo has been strongly, and visibly, active for 10 years. It is ample evidence of the lack of consent by local Indigenous communities for Adani's mining operations. There has also been strong Adivasi resistance to Adani's mining in the sacred area of the Nandiram hills, Chhattisgarh, including two Adivasi protesters killed by police in September 2019. Talabira mine, Odisha, has also had years of protest and claims of illegalities.





In central India, Adani's PEKB coal mine has ravaged the local environment and displaced Indigenous people. Photo © Vijay Ramamurthy



**We have been protesting
against these mines for the past
10 years. The problem that we
are facing is such that it will
completely destroy our future
generations and our identity...**

... We sat in protest for 70-75 days continuously, after that we walked 300 kms and told them our problems. It's been four months since then and still we have not been listened to.

Adivasi resistance leader (name withheld), Hasdeo Forest, Chhattisgarh

Chapter 8

COAL MINING IN INDONESIA

Omitted from Due Diligence:
Adani Group, SMG (December 2020)

*Adani's coal mine on
the Indonesian island of
Bunyu, North Kalimantan.
Photo courtesy JATAM.*



The Adani Group's coal mine on the small island of Bunyu, off the coast of north Kalimantan, has been blamed for loss of agricultural and fishing resources and the degradation of local water supplies. WALHI, the largest and oldest environmental advocacy NGO in Indonesia, has warned that Bunyu could become a 'dead island' if coal mining continues its relentless expansion.

In early 2019, Indonesia's JATAM (Mining Advocacy Network), a network of NGOs and community organisations, published a report describing the impacts of mining on Bunyu island. It says that the recent advent of coal mining has had severe impacts on the environment and the traditional way of life of local villagers.

Supplies of food such as rice, fruit and vegetables that were once locally obtained in abundant quantities have undergone a serious decline. Forests in important water catchments have been cleared or degraded. Local water supplies from streams, reservoirs, boreholes and roof-fed tanks have become polluted. Many people have had to resort to purchasing bottled water. Fish catches have declined significantly and local industries, such as processing seafood and salak fruit, have suffered.



**The ecosystem of Bunyu
Island is threatened by
coal mining...**

... It has an impact on the worsening quality of the environment and [threatens] forest areas on Bunyu Island.

Izal Wardana, executive director of the East Kalimantan chapter of the Indonesian Forum for the Environment (WALHI)

REPUTATIONAL DAMAGE TO THE SMG



The Science Museum is no stranger to protests over its fossil fuel partnerships, with the latest wave targeting its new partnership with Adani, primarily owing to its coal operations on contested Indigenous land in Australia, India and Indonesia. Photo © Ron Fassbender.

The Science Museum has already suffered reputational damage over its ongoing partnerships with companies such as Shell, BP and Equinor, culminating in autumn 2021 when Prof Chris Rapley, himself a former director of the museum, resigned from the Advisory Board over its fossil fuel partnerships. Shortly afterwards, the Science Museum announced its new partnership with Adani, leading to the resignation of trustees Hannah Fry, mathematician and presenter, and Jo Foster, Director of the Institute for Research in Schools, just two weeks later.

“The Science Museum should only accept money from companies genuinely committed to transitioning to a low-carbon economy ... and these companies have not – their sponsorship of this exhibit is greenwashing at its best and will only mislead the public.”

Sir Robert Watson, Former Chair of IPCC

“To accept sponsorship from an industry that has worked to cast doubt on climate science undermines the scientific community’s clear message that climate change is real and urgent.”

Professor Naomi Oreskes, Professor of the History of Science, Harvard University

“If the Science Museum Group is going to properly present the effects of fossil fuels, and fossil fuel companies, on the climate it has to be able to speak truth to power. And that means everyone – politicians, public and especially the fossil fuel industry. Its willing acceptance of gagging clauses ... and greenwashing by Adani, show it is more interested in sponsorship money than actually telling the scientific truth.”

Dr David L Clements, Reader in Astrophysics,
Imperial College London

“I am appalled that the Science Museum is accepting sponsorship from Adani. The Science Museum is neglecting the health of people and planet by associating with an industry which is inextricably linked to pain, hardship and death all over the world.”

Dara McAnulty, 17-year-old naturalist, multi-award winning author of ‘Diary of a young naturalist’



By allowing such public ties with these companies, I worry that the Science Museum gives the false impression that scientists believe the current efforts of fossil fuel companies are sufficient to avoid disaster.

Hannah Fry, former trustee of the Science Museum (resigned October 2021)



Chapters 1-5 contain summaries or direct extracts from the Science Museum Group's own report, Due Diligence: Adani Group, December 2020, reproduced below and available with referenced sources at <https://bit.ly/AdaniSMG> or scan the QR code

Appendix

DUE DILIGENCE

Adani Group

SCIENCE MUSEUM GROUP

(Prepared by Prospect Development Team – 07.12.2020)

Existing relationship to SMG

Adani is a prospective sponsor for a future gallery at the Science Museum – working title 'Our Future Planet: Solutions to tackling climate change'. We have no previous formal relationship with Adani Group, but have entered senior stakeholder conversations following [REDACTED]

Type of partnership / Gift information

We have shared indicative sponsorship levels with the Adani Group, ranging from [REDACTED] for Major to Title sponsorship of the proposed Gallery, which has a projected timeline of [REDACTED]

Company registration number: BR017704
Fourth Floor 12 Berkeley Street, London, W1J 8DT

Company website

<https://www.adani.com/>

Source of wealth:

what does the company do?

Adani Group is an Indian multinational conglomerate headquartered in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. The Group's primary business interests are its transport logistics and energy utility portfolio businesses focusing on large scale infrastructure development in India. It also has interests in resources, logistics, agribusiness, real estate, financial services, defence, and aerospace. The group is India's largest port developer and operator, and its largest private power producer. It also operates the largest dredging fleet in India.

The Group is comprised of 6 publicly traded companies:

Adani Enterprises; mining services (coal), integrated resources management, edible oil & foods production, agricultural logistics, solar manufacturing, defence & aerospace, transport infrastructure, water and sewage infrastructure, airports, and data centres.

Adani Ports & SEZ: commercial port operations, port infrastructural services, logistics and dredging.

Adani Green Energy: solar power, wind power, hybrid power and solar parks

Adani Power: solar and thermal (coal) power production and power plant construction and maintenance.

Adani Transmission: power transmission and distribution

Adani Gas: production and supply of piped natural gas to the industrial, commercial, domestic and compressed natural gas to the transport sector.

The company has approximately 17,000 employees and is active in at least 50 countries.

Source of wealth: Turnover

Adani Enterprises Ltd	2019-2020	2018-2019
Turnover	£4.48 billion (₹44,086.21 crore)	£4.2 billion (₹40,950.62 crore)
Net Income	£300 million (₹2,967.96 crore)	£258 million (₹2,540.76 crore)

The Group reports that it has a combined revenue of \$15 billion and market cap of \$40 billion (as on 28th Oct 2020).

Giving history/ associations with other organisations

The Adani Foundation supports Education, Health, Sustainable Livelihoods and Community Infrastructure in India. To achieve these goals, the Foundation has partnered with numerous school/ educational organisations, medical organisations, community organisations and government organisations in India.

Have any public concerns been raised in relation to the company that could have an adverse impact on SMG?

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

– In 2010, HG Venkatesh, general manager of Adani Mining, was arrested and granted bail on charges of illegally exporting iron ore. There is no update on his case. (India Times 02/11/2010).

– In 2011, following an investigation by the Ombudsmen of the State of Karnataka, Adani Enterprises were accused of illegally exporting iron ore. Anti-corruption agents raided the offices of Adani Enterprises and found evidence that Adani were engaging in bribery of public officials, including police, port officials and customs officials, to facilitate these illegal exports. No further available update on this case. (New York Times 01/08/2011).

– In 2015, the Adani Group, along with more than 17 other companies, were investigated for tax evasion. The companies allegedly conspired with Indian Railway to evade paying services taxes by taking advantage of schemes relating to transportation of goods by train. No further available update on this case. (Times of India 18/02/2015).

– In 2016, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) in India investigated several Adani subsidiaries for overvaluing their coal imports from Indonesia to gain better tax benefits and higher power tariff compensation. This occurred between 2011 and 2016. This investigation was halted by the Bombay High Court in 2017 but was reopened in January 2020. No further available

update on this case. (Financial Express 09/01/2020, Bloomberg 08/01/2020).

– In 2016, the Adani Group were accused by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) of having allegedly evaded taxes and laundered money worth approximately Rs 1,000 crore (£102 million) from the company's diamond and jewellery trading business between 2003-2009. The DRI has claimed that companies in the Adani Group misused export incentives and indulged in high-velocity circular trading through a complex web of front companies located in different parts of the world. The DRI appealed to the Supreme Court to prosecute this case. This does not appear to have happened and there is no further update on this case. (Economic & Political Weekly 31/12/2016, Scroll 09/01/2017).

– In 2017 it was reported that the Adani Group had been investigated and cleared of financial fraud in three separate investigations by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI). In all three cases Adani subsidiaries were accused of using the Dubai company, Electrogen Infra FZE (EIF), to inflate the price of machinery and equipment from China and Korea for power plant projects in the Maharashtra and Rajasthan states in India to siphon the extra money to companies registered in tax havens. These companies were owned by Vinod Shantilal Adani, the older brother of Adani Group chief executive, Gautam Adani. All three of these investigations were dismissed by the same DRI official, KVS Singh. In 2018, India's customs department revived these allegations of financial fraud against the Adani Group, challenging the order clearing the mining giant last year as "erroneous, illegal and improper". Unable to find any further reporting on this investigation. (Guardian 15/08/2017, 25/08/2017, 29/10/2017, 21/02/2018).

- In January 2020, The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) of India filed a criminal case against Adani Enterprises Ltd for colluding with two officials of the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation (NCCF) to unfairly win a contract for supplying coal to an Andhra Pradesh government-owned company. It is alleged that the two officials unduly favoured Adani Enterprises in getting the contract when Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corp. Ltd floated the tender in 2010 for the supply of 600,000 tonnes of coal. No further available update on this case. (Business Today 16/01/2020).
- In January 2020 it was reported that Adani Gas was facing a potential Rs 400 crore (£40 million) fine and possible cancellation of its city gas distribution licences by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB). The gas regulator has issued a notice to the company on nondisclosure of information and other alleged violations while bidding for city gas distribution projects. It was reported that PNGRB issued a notice because Adani Gas had bid for gas projects using net worth calculations of group company Adani Enterprises without disclosing the scheme of arrangement between the two. Adani Gas was the city gas distribution arm of Adani Enterprises but was later demerged and listed as a separate entity in November 2018. The report claimed that PNGRB saw this as a violation of law as Adani Gas' shareholding changes and restructuring were not in compliance with CGD regulations. No available updates on this case. (The Economic Times 26/01/2020).
- In March 2020, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) of India registered a case against 26 companies, including Adani Group of Companies, on charges of fraud. It is alleged that the companies conspired with officials at Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) to defraud MCL through manipulation of coal supply. This reportedly caused a loss of Rs 97 crores (£10 million) to the state exchequer. No available updates on this case. (Economic Times 22/03/2020).

FINES AND LITIGATION

- In 2014 the Competition Commission of India (CCI) imposed a penalty of Rs 25.67 (£2.6 million) crore on Adani Gas after finding its Gas Supply Agreement (GSA) imposing unfair conditions and abusing its market position. (Economic Times 09/03/2020).
- In March 2016, Adani Enterprises was accused of engaging in illegal activities by one of its own lawyers. These alleged activities were in relation to the construction of a solar plant in Tamil Nadu, India. The lawyer's allegations included that Adani was involved in illegal land purchases, as well as submitting fraudulent documents to gain a power purchase agreement which was later used to gain bank loans worth 23 billion rupees (£236 million). Adani denied the allegations and sort an injunction against the lawyer (Guardian 02/03/2016).
- In May 2019, Adani Ports was fined up to Rs 4.5 lakh (£4.6K) for non-compliance of listing regulations as specified by the Securities and Exchange Board of India. (Business Standard 15/05/2019).
- In August 2020, the Supreme Court in Brisbane ordered Adani Enterprises to pay a total of \$106.8 million AUS to four companies as compensation for not offering reasonable charges to access its Abbot Point coal terminal in Queensland. (Australian Financial Review 27/08/2020).

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- In 2011, a ship containing 60,000 metric tonnes of coal for Adani Enterprises sank 20 nautical miles off the South Mumbai coast causing huge environmental damage. In 2016 the National Green Tribunal of India imposed a fine of Rs 5 crore (£500,000) on Adani Enterprises Ltd. (Financial Express 23/08/2016).
- In 2013 the Environmental Ministry of India imposed a fine of Rs 200 crore (£20 million) on the Adani Group for local environmental damage caused by the groups' Mundra Port and Special Economic Zone project. The investigation had found evidence of destruction of mangroves, creek systems and natural seawater flow due

to the reclamation, and development of a township, airport, and hospital without the proper environmental approvals. In 2015, this fine was declared illegal and legal action was dropped. (The Economic Times 04/09/2013, Scroll.in 05/03/2018).

- In January 2016, the National Green Tribunal fined Adani Hazira Port Rs 2.5 crore (£256,000) for environmental damage caused by the development of the port. The port is owned by Adani. (Business Standard 28/01/2016)
- In 2017 Adani was fined \$12,190 by the Government of Queensland, Australia, for dumping water containing over eight times the permitted amount of sediment into the sea at its Abbot Point port. This polluted water may have reached the Great Barrier Reef. Reportedly, both Adani and the Queensland Government were aware beforehand that this dumping of contaminated water would be unlawful. (Guardian 10/08/2017, ABC 09/08/2018).

DEBT AND FINANCIAL ISSUES

- According to the Financial Times, the Adani Group has a total outstanding debt of \$30bn as of November 2020. Credit Suisse warned in a 2015 "House of Debt" report that the Adani Group was one of 10 conglomerates under "severe stress" that accounted for 12% of banking sector loans. (Financial Times 13/11/2020).
- In September 2020, it was reported that the Bank of New York Mellon (BNYM) had flagged transfers to the Adani Group from alleged shell companies, such as Thionville Financier Ltd, located in tax-havens such as the Seychelles in its Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) filed to the US financial watchdog FinCEN. These transfers occurred in 2013-2015 and looked suspicious as it consisted of "high round-dollar amounts". (Indian Express 23/09/2020).

RELATIONSHIP TO PRIME MINISTER MODI OF INDIA.

- Gautam Adani, Chairman and Founder of the Adani Group, has reportedly close ties to Prime Minister Modi of India (BJP party). Their relationship has been criticised as being a source of cronyism and corruption with the

Indian government. (Financial Times 12/11/2020).

- In December 2017, the National Indian Congress Party accused the BJP led government of buying electricity from Adani at massively inflated prices to benefit the company and causing massive losses to public finances. (Indian Express 01/12/2017)
- In 2018, the Indian Government approved the privatisation of 6 airports by the Adani Group, despite the company having no relevant experience in airport management. This was criticised as cronyism by the Kerala State Finance Minister and was described as a clear case of corruption by the National Indian Congress Party. In November 2020, the Kerala state government challenged the privatisation and transfer of ownership of the Thiruvananthapuram International Airport to the Adani group in the Supreme Court. (Financial Times 12/11/2020, Telegraph India 15/09/2020, The Hindu 24/11/2020).
- In September 2018, the Indian Congress Party accused the BJP Government of helping the Adani Group to cover up their alleged scams by halting or prematurely ending investigations into the company's alleged criminal activities. (Hindu Business Online 17/09/2018).
- In January 2020, the National Indian Congress Party alleged that the Modi Government had flouted procurement procedure to allow the Adani Group to participate in the manufacturing of submarines for the Indian Navy. (National Indian Herald 15/01/2020).

WORKER CONDITIONS

- In 2014 an investigation by Fairfax Media, a media company in Australia, into the treatment of Adani Group construction workers in India found evidence of lax safety and sanitation standards, underage workers, below minimum wage pay, and regular cholera outbreaks from contaminated drinking water. (Sydney Morning Herald 05/09/2014).

HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

- In May 2019, the Adani Group reportedly signed a US \$290 million commercial

deal with the Myanmar Economic Corporation (MEC), to develop a port. The MEC is controlled by the Myanmar armed forces, who have been accused by UN investigators of committing genocide and crimes against humanity against the Rohingya community. Adani says its deal violates no Australian, US, UN or other international sanctions, and rejected suggestions the investment was unethical or would compromise human rights. This commercial deal was criticised as helping fund crimes against humanity and enriching the individuals behind the persecution of the Rohingya. (Guardian 13/05/2019).

CARMICHAEL COAL MINE

- In 2014 the Australian Government approved the development of the largest coal mine in Australia, potentially the largest in the world, by the Adani Group, the Carmichael Coal Mine. The mine is located in the north of the Galilee Basin in Central Queensland. The aim of the mine was initially to produce 60 million-tonnes of thermal coal per annum, primarily for export to India via Adani's Abbot Port. The approval of the mine was criticised by environmental groups, including Greenpeace, for its potential impact on the environment, specifically the mines potential impact on the Great Barrier Reef, groundwater at its site and its high carbon emissions. In 2018, Adani announced that it was downscaling the project from the initial plan of AUS \$16.5 billion investment to a AUS \$2 billion.
- This smaller mine would also be entirely self-funded by Adani and have the aim of eventually producing 27 million tonnes of coal per annum. Following several legal challenges, the mine was approved in June 2019 and construction began on in June 2019 (Guardian 28/07/2014, ABC 29/11/2019, BBC 13/06/2019, Australian Mining 21/06/2019).
- In 2014, following criticism from environmental activists, politicians and scientists, Adani dropped plans to dump 5m tonnes of seabed sediment, produced by the construction of Carmichael Coal Mine, into the Great Barrier Reef marine park. (Guardian 02/09/2014).
- In August 2015, following a legal challenge by environmental activists, an Australian federal court revoked government approval for the Carmichael coal mine. The court ruled that the environment minister, Greg Hunt, ignored his own department's advice about the mine's impact on two vulnerable species, the yakka skink and the ornamental snake when approving the mine. Following this court ruling, Standard Chartered and the Australian Commonwealth Bank both pulled out of the project. (Guardian 05/08/2015, 10/08/2015).
- In 2015 Adani was investigated for removing material from a mine in Queensland without permission. No fine was paid but Adani had to pay for the material and the cost of the investigation. (Guardian 01/04/2015).
- In 2015 the Queensland Crime and Corruption Commission investigated whether financial arrangements between Adani and the Isaac Regional Council constituted a conflict of interest. Isaac Regional Council had agreed to accept money as compensation for the impact of the coal mine. The Commission determined that this did not constitute a conflict of interest. (Brisbane Times 22/06/2018).
- In 2015, the Adani Group was subject to a legal challenge by the Australian environmental group, Coast and Country over the development of the Carmichael mine project. The environmental group alleged that the development of the mine would have a negative affect groundwater, climate change, biodiversity, and the survival of endangered species. In June 2015, the Australian Land Court ruled in favour of Adani, recommending that they be granted mining leases. (Guardian 15/12/2015).
- In 2016 Adani was subject to a legal challenge by environmental groups in Australia who stated that the Queensland Government had breached the Environmental Protection Act by granting approvals for the company's mining lease in the region. This was dismissed by Queensland's supreme court. (Guardian 25/11/2016).
- In 2016 the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) submitted a legal challenge against the Australian Government's assessment of the environmental impact of Adani's Carmichael mine project. The Environment Minister, Greg Hunt, who had approved the mine project stated that the reports of potential carbon pollution and damage to the Great Barrier Reef resulting from the project was "speculative". The Australian Federal Court upheld this assessment. (Guardian 29/08/2016).
- In July 2019, Adani was subject to a legal challenge by a minority group of the indigenous traditional owners of the land the Wangan and Jagalingou people. The aim of the legal challenge was to invalidate an Indigenous land-use agreement (ILUA) previously approved by seven of 12 native title applicants. The judges unanimously ruled in favour of Adani, stating that the agreement met the legal requirements of the Native title Act. This judgment was partially due to an authorisation meeting of the Wangan and Jagalingou that voted 294-1 in favour in of the land use agreement. However, ABC reported that this authorisation meeting was boycotted by those opposed to the deal, and the official numbers are disputed by attendants at the meeting. Adani was also accused of paying people to vote in favour of the deal. (Guardian 12/07/2019, ABC 01/12/2017).
- Adani's operations in Australia, specifically their acquisition of mining rights in Queensland despite the company's poor environmental record, have been cited as an example of how Australia's mining approval system was susceptible to corruption. (Transparency International October 2017).
- In 2017 India's former environment minister, Jairam Ramesh, criticised the decision by the Australian Government to approve the Carmichael Mine Project due to Adani's poor environmental record. He stated that the development of the mine created an existential risk to the Great Barrier Reef and would cause massive environmental damage to the local area. (ABC News 01/10/2017).
- In February 2019, the law firm hired by Adani for the Carmichael Mine project, AJ & Co, were subject to criticism due to their self-described "attack dog" strategy. The strategy reportedly recommended bankrupting individuals who unsuccessfully challenge Adani in court, using lawsuits to pressure the Queensland Government, using the legal system to silence protestors, using the police and private investigators to target activists and social media "bias" as a tool to discredit decisionmakers. This strategy was reportedly used to bankrupt the leader the anti-Adani faction of the mine site's traditional owners, the Wangan and Jagalingo [sic], Adrian Burragubba. AJ & Co were described in the media as bringing the legal profession into disrepute and were reportedly considered for a professional misconduct investigation by the Australian Legal Services Commission. (ABC 18/02/2019, ABC 25/02/2019).
- In September 2019, Adani was investigated by the Queensland Government for breaching the Environmental Protection Act by sinking six dewatering bores in 2018 as part of its work on the Carmichael mine. The Australian federal government had already cleared Adani of any wrongdoing. No further available update on this investigation. (ABC 17/01/2019).
- In June 2019, the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) won a Federal Court appeal against the Australian government's assessment of Adani's North Galilee Water Scheme, which would provide water for the Carmichael coal mine project. The Australian Federal Government conceding it had failed to adequately scrutinise the project and accept public submissions against it. The project was reapproved by the Federal Government but in October 2020 was subject to another legal challenge by the ACF. (ACF 19/06/2019, Environmental Defenders Office 06/10/2020).
- In February 2020, the Brisbane Magistrates Court fined Adani AUS \$20,000 for providing false or misleading information to Queensland's environmental regulator. The company had provided misleading documentation that understated how much land it had cleared around the Carmichael mine project site. The company did not receive a criminal conviction. (ABC 05/02/2020).
- In September 2020, eight young Australian students brought a class action lawsuit to the country's federal

court seeking an injunction to prevent government approval of the Carmichael coal project. The legal challenge states that the project violates the Australian Government's common law duty of care to protect younger people against climate change. (Reuters 15/09/2020).

- In December 2020 Adani Group's Australian division, Bravus Mining, paid a fine of \$26,000 AUS for infringing environmental approval conditions at its Carmichael coal mine in central Queensland. The fine was issued by the Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment. (Bloomberg Quint 02/12/2020).

PROTESTS AGAINST CARMICHAEL COAL MINE

- There have been numerous protests against the Carmichael Mine Project. In 2018 thousands of protestors marched on the streets of Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Cairns protesting the development of the mine. In April 2019, Bob Brown; former leader of the Australian Green Party, led a convoy of vehicles to protest the proposed coal mine. In May 2020, environmental activists staged a "virtual" protest against Marsh, the insurance broker, who are partnered on the project. In October 2020 activists staged a protest at the Carmichael Mine site, challenging the company's water use strategy. In November protestors belonging to the #StopAdani group disrupted an India vs Australia cricket match and called on the State Bank of India to reverse its decision to provide loans worth AUS \$1 Billion to Adani for the mine. (Guardian 08/12/2018, 18/05/2018, Business Today 27/11/2020, The Economic Times 08/10/2020, QMEB 23/04/2019).
- In 2019 the charity Engineers Without Borders Australia (EWB) decided to end its partnership with engineering firm GHD, who sponsored EWB's community work. This was due to GHD's involvement in the development of the Adani Mining Carmichael project. (Sydney Morning Herald 09/08/2020).
- In January 2020, the climate protest group, Fridays for Future, staged a protest outside the offices of Siemens in Germany demanding that the company cease their involvement with the Carmichael Mine project. Siemens

were also called upon by other climate activists, including Greta Thunberg, to end the relationship. President and CEO of Siemens, Joe Kaeser, stated that after reviewing the rail signalling contract the company would continue with the project as they had a legally binding and enforceable fiduciary responsibility. (Guardian 13/01/2020, ABC News 10/01/2020).

- In August 2020, members of Wangan and Jagalingou people, who are the traditional owners of the land the mine is located on, protested the development of Adani's Carmichael coalmine by blocking workers from reaching the construction site. In 2019, the Australian Government had granted Adani over 1,385 hectares of Wangan and Jagalingou land for the mine. The Wangan and Jagalingou protestors stated that this was a violation of their sovereign and territorial integrity. (Guardian 31/08/2019, 24/08/2020).

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND MANAGEMENT TEAM.

Gautam Adani, Chairman, Adani Group

Dow Jones states that Gautam is a Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Debarred Entity.

Dow Jones lists Gautam as a Special Interest Person.

In 2014 Guatam Adani and Rajesh Adani were cleared of accusations of alleged cheating and manipulation of share prices of Adani Enterprises through entities controlled by Ketan Parekh, a former stockbroker, who was convicted in 2008, for involvement in an Indian stock market manipulation scam. In January 2020, this decision was overturned by a Mumbai Sessions Court and the case against Adani Enterprises will be reinvestigated and subject to a retrial. (The Indian Express 10/01/2020).

Rajesh Adani, Managing Director Adani Group

Dow Jones states that Rajesh is a Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Debarred Entity.

In February 2010 Rajesh Adani was arrested for allegedly evading customs duty and undervaluation fraud in Goa by the Central Bureau of Investigation. He was granted bail. No other available record of this case. (Indian Express 03/01/2013).

See Gautam Adani entry.

Priti Adani, Chairperson, Adani Foundation

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Priti Adani

Malay Mahadevia, Group HR & Whole Time Director, APSEZ

Dow Jones states that Malay is a Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Debarred Entity.

Dow Jones lists Malay as a Special Interest Person.

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Malay Mahadevia.

Pranav Adani, Managing Director (Agro, Oil & Gas)

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Pranav Adani.

Karan Adani, CEO. Adani Ports & SEZ Ltd

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Karan Adani.

Anil Sardana, MD & CEO, Adani Transmission Ltd I MD – Thermal Power

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Anil Sardana.

Vneet S. Jaain, MD & CEO, Adani Green Energy Ltd

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Vneet S. Jaain.

Vinay Prakash, CEO, Natural Resources

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Vinay Prakash.

Jeyakumar Janakaraj, CEO and Country Head, Adani Australia

Adani Australia's CEO, Jeyakumar Janakaraj, was previously Director of Operations of Konkola Copper Mines (KCM) in Zambia. Whilst at KCM, Jeyakumar was responsible for an African copper mine which allowed a flood of dangerous pollutants to pour into a Zambian river, the Kafue River, in 2004. This resulted in widespread illness and devastated adjacent farmland. KCM was prosecuted by the Zambian Government, and the company pleaded guilty to charges of polluting the environment, discharging toxic matter into the aquatic environment, wilfully failing to report an incident of pollution, and the failure to comply with the requirements for discharge of effluent. The company was fined 21,970,000 Zambian kwacha (£2,900). The Australian Government reportedly considered prosecuting the company for negligence for failing to disclose Jeyakumar's links to KCM. (ABC 12/11/2015, 12/02/2018 BBC 13/11/2015).

Sudipta Bhattacharya CFO Adani Group North America and CTO Adani Group

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Sudipta Bhattacharya.

Ben Zandi CEO – Airports Adani Enterprise Ltd

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Ben Zandi.

Gaurav Gupta, CFO, Adani Capital

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Gaurav Gupta.

J K Kannan, CFO, Adani Wilmar Ltd

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of TK Kannan.

Suresh Manolani, CFO, Adani Gas Ltd

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Suresh Manglani.

David Boshoff, CEO, Adani Mining Australia

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of David Boshoff.

Jayant Parimal, Advisor to Chairman

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Jayant Parimal.

Pranav Vora, CEO, Shipping

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Pranav Vora.

Ramesh Nai, CEO, Solar Manufacturing

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Ramesh Nair.

Jugeshinder ('Robbie') Singh, Group CFO, Adani Group

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Jugeshinder ('Robbie') Singh

Sagar Adani, Executive Director, AGEL

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Sagar Adani.

Jeet Adani, Vice President, Group Finance

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Jeet Adani.

Samir Vora, Executive Director, Adani Australia

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Samir Vora

Ashish Rajvanshi, President and Head, Chairman's Office

There were no concerns raised by the press coverage of Ashish Rajvanshi.

Transition Pathway Initiative (TPI) – Management Quality Score:

1 (Adani Enterprises)
Assessed on 08/12/2020

"The Science Museum does a wonderful job in making learning about many aspects of science and engineering enjoyable and accessible. But its reputation is now compromised by its willingness to participate in the greenwashing of a massive coal production corporation."

Professor Joanna Haigh, Emeritus Professor of Atmospheric Physics, Imperial College London



This book tells a true story about 'energy revolution' – the story of a struggle between Adani, a major polluter and corporate sponsor, and those on the ground who are leading the resistance to its impacts on Indigenous communities and the climate.

fossilfreesciencemuseum.com

This book has been printed by a process that uses no water, no high VOC chemicals, generates no waste to landfill and is powered by 100% renewable energy. Seacourt Ltd is a net carbon negative printer for its entire supply chain and make a net positive contribution to reducing climate change and to society.