

**Participation in the workshop for “Promotion of VSBs in Orissa” organized by the MSME Development Institute, Cuttack
March 25, 2009, Cuttack, Orissa**

The MSME Development Institute, Cuttack, Orissa, organized a workshop on 25 March 2009 to promote the VSBK as an energy-efficient and environment-friendly option to the traditional clamp kilns which are prevalent in the state. The workshop was held in Cuttack and attended by over 40 kiln owners.

Mr Sachin Kumar, TERI, presented an overview of the VSBK technology, which led to a lively question-and-answer session on the technical capabilities and economic viability of the VSBK in making good quality bricks from the clays prevalent in the region. In order to raise the awareness levels of the local entrepreneurs and increase their confidence in VSBK technology, TERI has proposed the following measures, which were welcomed by the participants.

- Organizing exposure visits for brick entrepreneurs from Orissa to various sites in Tamil Nadu where a few VSBKs are successfully operating.
- Training of firemen and kiln supervisors in efficient operation of the VSBK.
- Facilitating testing of clay, brick quality, and fuel quality for interested entrepreneurs.