

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2854
ANSWERED ON 20.12.2023

DMF

†2854. SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the District Mineral Foundation (DMF) has been set up as per the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any step/proposes to take step under this Act in the direction of appointing the Lok Sabha public representative of the concerned district in place of the District Collector as the Chairman of the Governing Council of the District Mineral Foundation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINES, COAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a) to (e): Yes, Sir. Section 9B of MMDR Act, 1957 empowers State Governments to establish District Mineral Foundation (DMF) to work for welfare and benefit of persons, and areas affected by mining related operations and make rules for composition and functions of the DMFs in the State. Accordingly, DMF has been constituted in 644 districts in 23 States.

The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2021 which came into effect on 28.03.2021 further empowers the Central Government to issue directions to the State Governments with respect to composition and utilisation of fund by DMF. Accordingly, Central Government has issued directions to all the States vide order dated 23.04.2021 to include MPs, MLAs and MLCs in the Governing Council in the larger public interest and also in order to maintain the uniformity in the composition of Governing Council and Managing Committee. Revised guidelines are under consideration.

The administrative head of the district, that is District Collector, is the chairman of the DMF and the elected representatives of mining affected area in the district are included as members of Governing Council.
