

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1580
ANSWERED ON 04.12.2024

USE OF LATEST TECHNOLOGY IN MINING INDUSTRIES

†1580 SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to encourage the use of the latest technology in mining industry in Jharkhand and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the safety standards and regulations to ensure safety of workers in the mining industry; and
- (c) whether the Government is utilizing the revenue generated from mining for local development and social welfare and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a): The National Mineral Policy, 2019 envisages the use of state-of-the-art technologies in mineral exploration, resource management, scientific and optimal mining of minerals to ensure their maximum economic recovery and development of human resources.

The leaseholders in the country including in Jharkhand are free to adopt the best available technology to ensure optimal mining of mineral resources. Some of the latest technologies which are being used in the mining sector include remote sensing, geographic information system, drone technology, satellite based monitoring, automation and Internet of Things.

(b): The Central Government regulates labour and safety standards in mines through The Mines Act, 1952 which is administered by the Ministry of Labour and Employment. The said Act contains provisions for appointment, functions and powers of mine inspectors, health and safety in mines, hours and limitation of employment, leave with wages etc. The Mines Rules, 1955 which have been framed under the said Act provide rules for medical examination of persons employed or to be employed in mines, workmen's inspector and safety committee, health and sanitation, first-aid and medical appliances, welfare amenities etc.

(c): The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 [MMDR Act, 1957] was amended through the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015 whereby Section 9B was introduced in the Act, which empowers the State Governments to establish District Mineral Foundation (DMF) to work for welfare and benefit of persons and areas affected by mining related operations. The funds accrued under DMF are utilized as per the Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY) guidelines, inter-alia on following activities:

- (i) Drinking water supply
- (ii) Environment preservation and pollution control measures
- (iii) Health care
- (iv) Education
- (v) Welfare of women and children
- (vi) Skill development and livelihood generation

As of 30.09.2024, a cumulative amount of Rs. 1,00,158.16 Crores have been collected under DMF out of which Rs. 86,462.80 Crores has been allocated for 3,60,811 projects.
