

PRESS RELEASE



Meghalaya Marks 10th Anniversary of District Mineral Foundation, E-Launches Development Projects

Shillong, Oct 14, 2026: The Government of Meghalaya today marked the 10th Anniversary of the District Mineral Foundation (DMF), reaffirming its commitment to ensuring that mining-affected communities benefit from development initiatives. The event also highlighted the role of DMF in supporting community welfare and addressing developmental needs in areas affected by mining activities across Meghalaya.



Speaking on the occasion, Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister while acknowledging all involved in the successful implementation of the DMF stated, "In the last ten years, the DMF has been successfully implemented, ensuring the benefits of the fund, the entire activity of mining and its benefits, would directly reach the people that are affected by mining-related activities." He added that projects worth ₹181.38 crore had been taken up under the DMF, covering 923 projects across various districts, with a focus across sectors including the social sector, education, healthcare, sanitation, water supply and other necessities.

Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister while



Emphasizing the need to transition from an extractive economy to a dependent economy that creates value while ensuring stability, he also stressed that revenues generated through mining, including DMF funds and other forms of royalties, must be invested wisely to strengthen communities, regenerate economy, and support long-term sustainable development. Noting that dependence on mining will continue including finding better and flexible ways of mining allowing miners to mine and create revenue, he added, “Mining is important, not only in terms of DMF but also in terms of livelihood it generates.”

Shri B. S. Sohliya, IAS, Secretary, Mining & Geology Department, Government of Meghalaya noted that the purpose of DMF was introduced to work for the benefit of persons and areas affected by mining-related activities, with benefits arising from mining and mineral resources. “Development must take into consideration the growth of societies”, he added, while speaking of growth of sectors like education, healthcare, water, infrastructure and sustainable livelihoods. He noted that DMF covers a wide range of sectors and districts, addressing local need through targeted interventions, with education as one of the key focuses, while particularly improving infrastructure and providing communities with safer and conducive environments.

The District Mineral Foundation (DMF) was established under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 following amendments in 2015. DMF has been constituted to work for the interest and benefit of the people and areas affected by mining related activities. The fund under DMF provides a mechanism for channelling resources towards developmental interventions that address local priorities and improve the quality of life of affected communities.

Beneficiaries from various districts of Meghalaya shared their experiences, highlighting the positive impact of the DMF on their lives and communities. They expressed their gratitude to the government and the Mining Department for introducing the scheme, which has significantly improved their livelihoods and brought meaningful change to their communities.



A presentation showcasing DMF projects implemented across Meghalaya was featured, highlighting the initiatives undertaken in different districts. The coffee table book was also released today providing an overview of these interventions including the work carried out under the foundation. The event also featured the announcement of the Best Performing DMF District which was awarded to East Khasi Hills District.



The event also acknowledged students' participation through quiz, essay writing and painting competitions with prizes being distributed to the winners by the Chief Minister and other dignitaries. The competitions sought to encourage awareness among the youth on issues surrounding natural resources, mining and development.



Dignitaries in attendance were Shri Conrad K Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister; Shri B. S. Sohliya, IAS, Secretary, Mining & Geology Department; Shri M. B. Tongper, MCS, Director, Mineral Resources; officials of the Mining & Geology Department, among others.

Sd/-
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