

# CSE suggestions for running trusts in mineral-rich states

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**Ranchi:** The Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) on Friday gave four recommendations for the creation of district mineral foundations (DMF)s in mining states. The objective of creating such a trust is to share the benefits of mining with affected people.

"Identifying the affected is the biggest challenge," Sunita Narain, the director general of CSE said in Ranchi on Friday. "The DMF must have a specific mechanism to administer funds so that each affected person receives it directly," she added. The CSE held a workshop in a city hotel to educate media and activists about DMF.

The New-Delhi-based interna-

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Sunita Narain in Ranchi on Friday

tional consortium laid down four guidelines for the state governments of Jharkhand, Odisha, and Chhatisgarh while constituting DMFs, which will be created to provide benefits to people displaced and affected by mining projects, under the Mines and Minerals Regulation and Development Act (MMRDA) 2015. Recommending a

professional set up for a DMF, the CSE proposed a male and female representative from each affected village, besides the participation of government officers and mining firms.

The DMF money is strictly for the social and economic upliftment of persons and areas affected by mining, the recommendation said. Of the total funds that DMF will receive in a year, around 20% should be deposited in an account for future use as well as for emergency situations like natural calamities. Each family directly affected by mining should be entitled to equal monetary benefit, which could either be paid monthly or annually. S K Satapathy, principal secretary (mining), asked the CSE to prepare a draft rule for the DMF in the state at the seminar.