

**Minutes of the Meeting of the 5<sup>th</sup> State Finance Commission, Jharkhand, with the officials of UNICEF, on 21.11.2024 in the Chamber of the Chairman of the 5<sup>th</sup> SFC (Room No.141, Yojna Bhawan)**

1. The meeting was chaired by Sri A. P. Singh, Chairman, 5<sup>th</sup> State Finance Commission, and participated by Dr. Harishwar Dayal, Member, 5<sup>th</sup> State Finance Commission, Dr. Kanika Mitra, Chief, Unicef, Jharkhand, Sri Onkar Nath Tripathi, Social Policy Specialist Unicef, Jharkhand and Sri Premchand, Water and Sanitation Specialist, Unicef, Jharkhand.
2. The objective of this meeting was to explore the possibilities for collaboration between these two institutions (5<sup>th</sup> SFC and Unicef) for strengthening the Local Self-Government (PRI and ULB) in the state.
3. Initiating the discussion the chairman said that the 5<sup>th</sup> SFC, Jharkhand is keen to explore policy interventions that can be done by the PRIs and ULBs for poverty alleviation in their areas and move towards zero poverty panchayats and municipalities. He stressed the importance of maintenance (O&M) of assets created for drinking water and sanitation. He expressed his concern about climate change and expressed the need for climate change mitigation. He stressed the need to explore how the panchayats and schools in the state can be made carbon neutral.
4. The Chief, Unicef, Jharkhand said that the work of Unicef is child-centric. She said that Unicef can assist the 5<sup>th</sup> SFC in resolving the problem for O&M of assets created under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) and Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).
5. Unicef can also work to make schools carbon-free/carbon-neutral through the solarisation of schools.
6. The officials of Unicef remarked that for the effective implementation of the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP), it must first be assessed whether the GPDP has been done properly.
7. They said that the District Mineral Foundation Trust (DMFT) fund should also go to the Panchayats. Visible projects and useful and durable assets should be created through this fund.
8. They opined that Hon'ble MLAs are also part of the DMFT committee along with the concerned Mukhiyas. It has been felt that the Mukhiyas are not able to express themselves in the meeting of the committee. Effective involvement of Mukhiyas should be ensured in these committees.
9. They informed that the restriction that the assets have to be created within 5 kilometre of the mines has been dropped. This has opened the door for adequate and more

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comprehensive area planning and coverage of larger areas which are also affected directly or indirectly. But it was also felt that most vulnerable/ affected must be attended adequately and effectively.

10. They said that the timely submission of utilisation certificates is an issue that has to be resolved. Transfer of the next instalment becomes a problem if utilisation certificate is not submitted on time. Preparation and submission of utilisation certificates are delayed because of lack of functionaries.
11. Unicef was request to support SFC by providing consultant. The officials of Unicef assured they will take it up in the coming year i.e. 2025.

*H. Dayal*  
21.11.2024.

(Harishwar Dayal)  
Member  
State Finance Commission

*A. Pratap Singh*  
21/11/2024  
(Amrendra Pratap Singh)  
Chairman  
State Finance Commission

Memo No. – वित्त (SFC) – 31/01/24 – 14 / वि०आ०

Ranchi, Dated. 17.01.25

CC: Secretary, Department of Finance, Govt. of Jharkhand/Secretary, Department of Mines & Geology for kind information and necessary action please.

*Kaushal*  
17-01-2025

Dy. Secretary  
State Finance Commission,  
Jharkhand, Ranchi