

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3239**  
ANSWERED ON 28/03/2025

**EXPANSION OF FOOD TESTING INFRASTRUCTURE**

3239. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to ramp up food testing infrastructure to boost exports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there are gaps in food testing infrastructure;
- (d) if so, the comprehensive plan proposed to be chalked out to expand the infrastructure in a more holistic manner;
- (e) whether Export Inspection Council proposes to launch an integrated traceability module; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof including new testing laboratories being established?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

**(a) & (b)** The Export Inspection Council (EIC), a statutory body under the Department of Commerce, is responsible for the testing and certification of notified commodities intended for export. EIC regularly upgrades and expands its food testing laboratory network to support the export of these commodities. To enhance trade facilitation, the EIC improves infrastructure by establishing and upgrading laboratory facilities across India.

**(c) & (d)** Gap Assessment Study is being conducted by EIC on India's Food Testing Laboratories for Exports in terms of total laboratory infrastructure, regional or cluster-level laboratory requirements, product-specific requirements. Based on the findings of the said study, appropriate measures will be taken.

**(e) & (f)** EIC is in the process to implement the Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) across its eight Export Inspection Agency (EIA) laboratories, as well as a LIMS module for around 70 EIC-recognized laboratories. This system will be integrated with the existing system to enhance efficiency, transparency, and real-time monitoring in the testing and certification process for export commodities, ensuring compliance with international standards.

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