

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.687  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2022**

**OPENING OF FOOD TESTING LABORATORIES**

**687. SHRI PATEL HASMUKHBHAI SOMABHAI:  
SHRI RATANSINH MAGANSINH RATHOD:**

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details regarding the number of food testing laboratories opened/functional in the country, particularly in the backward areas during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to open more of such laboratories at block level in future; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY  
WELFARE  
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (c): Food Authority has notified 225 food laboratories under Section 43 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 for primary food sample testing and 21 referral laboratories till October, 2022. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has informed that opening of new food testing laboratories is not under the purview of FSSAI. It is responsibility of the States to establish the Food Testing Laboratories in the States. FSSAI provides financial support for procurement of equipment, purchase of consumables, hiring of contractual manpower for a specified period and capacity building of the lab staff.

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