Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has noticed a rise in lifestyle diseases in the country and if so, the details regarding the steps and measures taken for spreading awareness in this regard;

(b) whether the Government has noticed that one of the reasons for increasing lifestyle diseases is due to consuming unhealthy food from outside and the Food laws are not stringent enough to regulate in this regard and if so, the details of steps taken/proposed to be taken to bring in better food regulation;

(c) whether the Government has observed a rise in food poisoning cases being detected in Kerala causing widespread concern on public health and if so, the details of steps taken to ensure that food regulation become strict in Kerala; and

(d) whether Kerala has sufficient food testing labs and if so, the details of the same, district-wise?

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

(a): The Department of Health & Family Welfare provides technical and financial support to the States/UTs under the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS), as part of National Health Mission (NHM), based on the proposals received from the States/UTs and subject to the resource envelope. The programme focusses on strengthening infrastructure, human resource development, health promotion & awareness generation, early diagnosis, management and referral to an appropriate level of healthcare facility for treatment of the Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) which are also known as lifestyle diseases. Under NPCDCS, 698 District NCD Cells, 708 District NCD Clinics, 194 District Cardiac Care Units, 301 District Day Care Centres and 5671 Community Health Centre NCD Clinics have been set up.

A population-based initiative for prevention, control and screening for common Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) i.e., diabetes, hypertension and common cancers has been rolled out in the country
under NHM and also as a part of Comprehensive Primary Health Care. Under the initiative, persons more than 30 years of age are targeted for their screening for common NCDs. Screening of these common NCDs is an integral part of service delivery under Ayushman Bharat – Health and Wellness Centres.

Ayushman Bharat- Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs), included primary healthcare services expanded from selective to Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC) inclusive of NCD services, closer to community. Preventive aspect of NCDs is strengthened under Comprehensive Primary Health Care through Ayushman Bharat Health Wellness Centre scheme, by promotion of wellness activities and targeted communication at the community level. Till date 1,56,338 Health & Wellness Centres have been operationalized as on 30th January 2023.

Further initiatives for increasing public awareness about NCDs and for promotion of healthy lifestyle includes observation of National & International Health Days and use of print, electronic and social media for continued community awareness. Furthermore, healthy eating is also promoted through FSSAI. Fit India movement is implemented by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, and various Yoga related activities are carried out by Ministry of AYUSH. In addition, NPCDCS gives financial support under NHM for awareness generation (IEC) activities for NCDs to be undertaken by the States/UTs as per their Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs).

(b): Several risk factors are associated with Non-Communicable Diseases, such as tobacco use, alcohol use, insufficient physical activity and unhealthy diet and air pollution. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) sets up food standards which are Mandatory and every Food Business operator needs to comply with these standards.

(c): The state government of Kerala has observed rising food poisoning cases in the state of Kerala including some casualties. The health department had initiated many enforcement activities with the support of food safety authority jointly to monitor the quality of food served to these outlets.

FSSAI has extended financial support to the State Food and Drug Administration of Kerala to strengthen state food labs, to strengthen food testing ecosystem and 12 mobile food testing labs or Food Safety on Wheels (FSW) for ensuring food safety even in the remotest part of the state.

(d): There are 15 FSSAI notified Laboratories available in Kerala which serve the entire state for the testing of food samples. Details are attached in Annexure.

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<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>FSSAI Notified Laboratory List</th>
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| 1    | Ernakulam     | Accurate Analytic (General Purpose Laboratory), Cochin  
Nikarthil Road, Thoppumpady, Cochin – 682005  
State Laboratory for Livestock, Marine & Agri Product (SLMAP), Ernakulam  
Maradu, Nettor P.O., Ernakulam, Kerala  
The Marine Products Export Development Authority, Quality Control Laboratory, 5th Floor, MPEDA House, Panampilly Nagar, Kochi, Kerala  
Export Inspection Agency, (Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India)  
27/1767A, Shipyard Quarters Road, Panampilly Nagar(South), Kochi- 682036, Kerala  
FQ Lab and Research Centre Private Limited, Cochin  
OS-30 & 31, IIIrd Floor, GCDA Complex, Marine Drive, Ernakulam, Kochi-6820310  
Interfield Laboratories, Kochi  
13/1208 – A Interprint House, Karuvelpady, Kochi - 682005, Kerala  
Neogen Food & Animal Security (India) Pvt Ltd, Cochin  
Uchikkal Lane, Poonithura P.O. Cochin – 682038, Kerala  
Regional Analytical Laboratory, Ernakulam  
Kakkanan, Ernakulam - 682030, Kerala |
| 2    | Thrissur      | Confederation for Ayurvedic Renaissance Keralam Ltd., Koratty  
KINFRA, Small Industries Park, Nalukettu Road, Koratty – 680 309, Thrissur, Kerala |
| 3    | Pathanamthitta| Food Quality Monitoring Laboratory (FQML), Kerala  
Council for Food Research & Development Office, Perinjottakkal P.O., Konni, Pathanamthitta Distt., Kerala- 689692 |
& SEA Lab, Aroor  
Seafood Park India Limited, XIII/99A, Keltron Road, Aroor, Alleppey District, Kerala-688534 |
| 5    | Kollam        | CEPCI Laboratory & Research Institute, Kollam  
Cashew Bhawan, Mundakkal, Kollam-691001 |
| 6    | Thiruvananthapuram | Govt. Analyst’s Laboratory, Thiruvananthapuram  
Red Cross Road, Vanchiyoor P.O., Thiruvananthapuram – 695035, Kerala |
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kozhikode</td>
<td>Regional Analytical Laboratory, Kozhikode Malaparamba, Kozhikode, Kerala – 670009</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Palakkad</td>
<td>The above mentioned laboratories also cater the food testing in these districts</td>
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<td>9</td>
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