

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1001
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH SEPTEMBER, 2020**

LABS FOR CONDUCTING COVID-19 TESTS

1001. SHRI NATARAJAN P.R.:

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

- (a) whether the Government is having any data regarding the number of pathological labs available across the country for conducting COVID-19 tests, if so, the details thereof State/UT-wise;
- (b) the number of such tests conducted so far in private/government hospitals and number of cases found positive;
- (c) whether there is any proposal with the Government for opening of more such labs to meet the requirement of increasing number of COVID-19 infections; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken thereon?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

- (a) The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), an autonomous organisation under the Department of Health Research has informed that as on 13.09.2020, a total of 1717 COVID-19 testing laboratories are registered on its portal comprising 1049 Government labs and 668 Private labs. In addition, ICMR has a total of 5134 antigen testing sites entered in their database as on 17.09.2020.
- (b) ICMR has informed that till 13.09.2020, a total 5,72,39,428 COVID-19 tests have been performed by the testing laboratories, of which 48,46,427 have been reported as COVID-19 infected.
- (c) and (d) ICMR has informed that it is in the process of on-boarding more new labs through its 14 Mentor Institutes. Private/Government Medical institutions who have not set-up the lab have been issued instructions to expedite the process of setting up of lab. According to ICMR, there are more than 250 labs, which are under process of setting-up COVID-19 testing facility.