

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4556**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 23RD MARCH, 2021/ CHAITRA 2, 1943 (SAKA)

USE OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

4556. SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of India in the world in the field of Forensic Science; and**
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to enhance the use of forensic science in the country?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) and (b): Such a ranking is not maintained by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). However, in order to enhance the use of forensic sciences in the country, some of the recent initiatives taken by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) are as follows:

(i) Projects have been sanctioned for strengthening DNA analysis, Cyber-forensics and related facilities in 20 States/Union Territories at a total cost of Rs.189.45 crore under Nirbhaya Fund scheme.

(ii) A total of Rs.195.97 crore has been approved by the MHA for States/ Union Territories to strengthen their forensic facilities in financial years 2019-20 and 2020-21 under the scheme for Modernization of Police Forces.

(iii) To ensure quality and standardization in forensic examination, the Directorate of Forensic Science Services, MHA, has issued the following guidelines:

- **Quality Manuals for accreditation of laboratories as per NABL standards (ISO 17025) and Working Procedure Manuals in nine disciplines of Forensic Sciences.**
- **Quality Manuals and Working Procedure Manuals for Biology and DNA Division.**
- **Guidelines for collection, preservation & transportation of forensic evidence in sexual assault cases for Investigation Officers and Medical Officers.**
- **Standard list of Equipment for establishing/upgrading of Forensic Sciences Laboratories.**

(iv) A National Forensic Sciences University has been established as an institute of national importance to provide quality manpower to the forensic sciences sector. This is the first national university in the world which has been exclusively set up for Forensic Sciences.

(v) Central Forensic Sciences Laboratories (CFSLs) at Bhopal, Guwahati, Pune and Kolkata, have been modernized, including capacity building in terms of forensic equipment and availability of trained manpower.

(vi) A State-of-the-Art DNA Analysis Unit has been set-up in the Central Forensic Sciences Laboratory, Chandigarh, in December 2019.

(vii) As a measure to enhance capacities of Investigation Officers/ Prosecutors and Medical Officers in collection, handling and storage of forensic evidence in sexual assault cases, the Bureau of Police Research & Development, Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Science have trained (till 16 March 2021) a total of 14558 officers from various States/Union Territories since 2018-19.

(viii) Bureau of Police Research & Development has distributed 14,950 Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits to States/ Union Territories for scientific evidence collection.
