

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 940
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD DECEMBER 2021

VIROLOGICAL AND EPIDEMIOLOGICAL RESEARCH

940. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

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

- (a) the number of universities that are currently offering specialty virology and epidemiology courses along with the number of students enrolled in these courses;
- (b) the number of institutes that are dedicated to virological and epidemiological research in India;
- (c) whether the Government has set up any new institutes in these fields during the last five years, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government considers that the number of such courses and institutes are adequate to cater to the study warranted in the emerging fields of virology and epidemiology, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government intends to increase the number of courses and the number of institutes in these fields and if so, the details of the proposals under consideration; and
- (f) if not, the reasons thereof?

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

(a): 09 Universities/Institutes currently have been offering virology and epidemiology courses as per details given below: -

S.N.	Name of Universities/ Institutes	Students enrolled
1.	Savitribai Phule Pune University	313 (from 15 batches 2005-2020)
2.	Utkal University Bhubaneswar	50 (in last 3 years)
3	Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala	291 (in last 20 years)
4.	Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)	58 (in last 3 years)
5.	CMC, Vellore, Tamil Nadu	2 (2019-20)
6.	Amity University, Uttar Pradesh	20 (2019-20)
7.	Central University of Tamil Nadu, Tiruvarur	15 (2019-20)
8.	Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal	12 (2019-20)

Apart from the above, the Institutes of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) an Autonomous Body under the Department of Health Research are also conducting PhD programmes in virology and epidemiology affiliated to the local (state) universities.

(b): The Government has set up 124 Virus Research and Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDLs) under the Department of Health Research's Scheme 'Setting up of nation-wide network of laboratories for managing epidemics and natural calamities' in the Government Medical Colleges and Central Research Institutes.

In addition, 14 ICMR institutes and 03 Universities namely Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal and S.V.U. College of Sciences, Tirupati are also conducting virological and epidemiological research.

(c): 78 Virus Research and Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDLs) have been set up in the Government Medical Colleges and Central Research Institutes during the last five years. Details are given in the **Annexure**.

d), (e) & (f): 42 new Virus Research and Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDLs) are proposed to be set up in the Government Medical Colleges and Central Research Institutes across the country during the 15th Finance Commission period from 2021-22 to 2025-26 under the Department of Health Research's Scheme 'Setting up of nation-wide network of laboratories for managing epidemics and natural calamities'

Besides, National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) had started the India Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) training Programme in 2012 to strengthen applied epidemiology training of frontline health workforce of central, state and local municipal health departments. This is a two-year competency-based training with emphasis on field epidemiology skill development while providing service in public health programmes.

Till date EIS Officers have responded in more than 150 infectious disease outbreaks in 28 states and emergency situations including natural and manmade disasters. They have evaluated 50 disease surveillance systems at subnational level, leading to improvement of the systems through actionable recommendations.

List of Virology Labs during last 5 years

State/UT	Level of VRDL	S. No.	LIST OF VRDLs	Year of Establishment
Andaman	State Level	1	Regional Medical Research Centre, Port Blair	2018-19
	Medical Level	2	Andaman & Nicobar Island Institute of Medical Sciences (ANIIMS), Port Blair	2020-21
Andhra Pradesh	Medical Level	3	Rangaraya Medical College, Kakinada	2017-18
	State Level	4	Guntur Medical College, Guntur	2018-19
	Medical Level	5	Andhra Medical college, Vishakhapatnam	2019-20
Assam	Medical Level	6	Silchar Medical College, Silchar	2017-18
	Medical Level	7	Fakhruddin Medical College, Barpeta	2017-18
Bihar	Medical Level	8	Darbhanga Medical College, Darbhanga	2017-18
	Medical Level	9	S K Medical College, Muzaffarpur	2017-18
	Regional level	10	All India Institute of Medical Science, AIIMS Patna (Bihar)	2019-20
	Medical Level	11	Rajendra Memorial Research Institute of Medical Sciences, Patna	2019-20
	Medical Level	12	Jawahar Lal Nehru Medical College & Hospital, Bhagalpur	2020-21
Chandigarh	Medical Level	13	Government Medical College & Hospital, Chandigarh	2017-18
Chhattisgarh	State Level	14	All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) Raipur, Chhattisgarh.	2017-18
Delhi-NCT	Regional Level	15	All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi- 110029	2019-20
	Medical Level	16	Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital and Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Medical Sciences	2020-21
	Medical Level	17	Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi	2018-19
	Medical Level	18	University College of Medical Sciences & Guru Teg Hospital, Delhi	2020-21
	State Level	19	Setting up of a VRDL Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi	2020-21
Goa	Medical Level	20	Goa Medical College , Bambolim	2020-21

Gujarat	Medical Level	21	Government Medical College, Surat	2018-19
	Medical Level	22	GMC, Bhavnagar	2019-20
	Medical Level	23	PDU GMC, Rajkot	2019-20
	Medical Level	24	Government Medical College & SSG Hospital, Vadodara	2018-19
Himachal Pradesh	Medical Level	25	Dr. Radha Krishna Govt. Medical College, Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh	2020-21
	Medical Level	26	Lal Bahadur Shastri Medical College, Mandi, Himachal Pradesh	2020-21
Jammu and Kashmir	Medical Level	27	Government Medical College, Srinagar	2016-17
Jharkhand	Medical Level	28	Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences, Ranchi	2016-17
	Medical Level	29	MGM Medical College, Jamshedpur	2016-17
Karnataka	Medical Level	30	Mysore Medical College & Research Institute, Mysore	2020-21
	Medical Level	31	Hassan Institute of Medical Sciences, Hassan	2016-17
	Medical Level	32	Karnataka Institute of Medical Sciences, Hubballi	2016-17
	Medical Level	33	Gulbarga Institute Of Medical Sciences, Gulbarga	2016-17
Kerala	State Level	34	National Institute of Virology, Alappuzha	2018-19
	Medical Level	35	Government Medical College, Thrissur	2016-17
Madhya Pradesh	Medical Level	36	Bundelkhand Medical College, Sagar	2019-20
	Medical Level	37	MGM Medical College, Indore	2016-17
	Medical Level	38	Gajra Raja Medical College, Gwalior	2016-17
	State Level	39	National Institute for Research in Tribal Health(NIRTH), Jabalpur	2018-19
	Medical Level	40	S.S Medical College, Rewa	2017-18
Maharashtra	Medical Level	41	Government Medical College, Miraj, Sangli	2017-18
	Medical Level	42	Kasturba Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Mumbai	2019-20
	Medical Level	43	Seth GS Medical College & KEM Hospital , Mumbai	2018-19
	Medical Level	44	AIIMS, Nagpur	2020-21
	State Level	45	Government Medical college, Nagpur	2019-20
	Medical Level	46	Government Medical College, Aurangabad	2019-20

	Medical Level	47	V. M. Government Medical College, Solapur	2019-20
	Medical Level	48	Shri Bhausaheb Hire Government Medical College, Dhule	2019-20
	Medical Level	49	Government Medical College and Hospital & Superspeciality Hospital, Akola	2019-20
Manipur	State Level	50	Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal	2016-17
Mizoram	Medical Level	51	Zoram Medical College	2020-21
Odisha	Regional level	52	RMRC, Bhubaneswar	2017-18
	State Level	53	AIIMS, Bhubaneswar	2020-21
	Medical Level	54	Saheed Laxman Nayak Medical College & Hospital, Koraput, Odisha (SLNMCH)	2020-21
	Medical Level	55	Veer Surendra Sai Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Burla, Sambalpur, Odisha	2020-21
Puducherry	Medical Level	56	Indira Gandhi Medical College & Research Institute, Puducherry	2016-17
Punjab	Medical Level	57	Guru Gobind Singh Medical College, Faridkot, Punjab	2020-21
Rajasthan	Medical Level	58	RNT Medical College, Udaipur	2016-17
	Medical Level	59	S.P. Medical College & Associated Group of Hospitals, Bikaner, Rajasthan	2016-17
	Medical Level	60	Jhalawar Medical College, Jhalawar, Rajasthan	2016-17
	Regional level	61	AIIMS, Jodhpur	2017-18
Tamil Nadu	Medical Level	62	Government Mohan Kumaramangalam Medical College, Salem	2016-17
	Medical Level	63	Government Medical College, Thiruvarur	2019-20
	Medical Level	64	Government Medical College, Villupuram	2019-20
	Medical Level	65	Tirunelveli Medical College, Tirunelveli	2016-17
	State Level	66	Coimbatore Medical College, Coimbatore	2016-17
	State Level	67	King Institute of Preventive Medicine and Research, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	2016-17
	Medical Level	68	Madras Medical College, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	2016-17
Telangana	State Level	69	Gandhi Medical College, Secunderabad	2017-18
Uttar Pradesh	State Level	70	Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Banaras	2016-17
	State Level	71	ICMR-Regional Medical Research Center, Gorakhpur	2020-21
Uttarakhand	State Level	72	AIIMS, Rishikesh	2019-20

	Medical Level	73	Doon Government Medical College, Dehradun	2019-20
West Bengal	Medical Level	74	Midnapore Medical College & Hospital, Midnapore	2016-17
	Medical Level	75	North Bengal Medical College, Darjeeling	2016-17
	Medical Level	76	Malda Medical College, Malda	2018-19
	Medical Level	77	Burdwan Medical College	2020-21
	Medical Level	78	RG Kar Medical College, Kolkata	2018-19