GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3136

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 22ND MARCH, 2022/ CHAITRA 1, 1944 (SAKA)

SETTING UP OF FORENSIC LABORATORIES

†3136. SHRI VINAYAK RAUT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether forensic laboratories for technological and electronic evidence exist in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is contemplating to set up or increase the number of such laboratories in the country and if so, the details thereof along with its target;

(c) whether such laboratories will help in strengthening the position of electronic evidence in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether amendments in laws or rules will be carried out for regulation of such forensic laboratories and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether such forensic laboratories are being utilized effectively according to their capacity at present; and

(f) if not, the reasons therfor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISHRA)

(a) There are seven Central Forensic Science Laboratories in the country which have dedicated facilities for electronic forensics, including computer and cyber forensics. A state-of-the-art National Cyber Forensic Laboratory (NCFL) has been established at CyPAD, Dwarka, New Delhi to provide early stage cyber forensic assistance to Investigating Officers (IOs) of State/UT Police. Further, as per available information, Cyber forensic-cum-training laboratories have been commissioned in 28 States/union territories, namely Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Odisha, Sikkim, Telangana, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Dadra and Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu, Punjab, Assam, Tripura, Puducherry, Jammu & Kashmir, Chandigarh, Rajasthan and West Bengal.

(b) The Ministry has approved setting up a National Cyber Forensic Laboratory for Evidentiary purposes in the Central Forensic Science Laboratory, Hyderabad.

(c) Yes, Sir. The capacity addition will strengthen the mechanism to deal with cyber crimes in a comprehensive and coordinated manner.

(d) There is no such proposal. However, the Directorate of Forensic Science Services has issued a Working Procedures Manual to ensure quality in such laboratories.

(e) As per available information, the Central Forensic Science Laboratories are using the available resources for early disposal of cases. Information on State Forensic Science Laboratories is not maintained centrally.

(f) Does not arise in view of reply to part (e) above.

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