

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 353**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2022/ ASHADHA 28, 1944 (SAKA)**

**STRENGTHENING OF FSLs.**

**353. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:**

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to strengthen Forensic Science Laboratories (FSLs) in the country and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government is aware that the problem of lack of skilled and experienced human resources is faced by the Forensic Analysis;**
- (c) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to establish campus of National Forensic Science University in all States and if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) whether the Government proposes to consider the application for establishing campus of National Forensic Science University at Kollam in the vacant land available with Central Government Public Undertaking and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (f) whether the Government proposes to establish regional centre forensic lab at Kollam in Kerala and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) The Ministry of Home Affairs has taken several steps for strengthening of Forensic Science Laboratories in the country, and include, inter-alia:**

**(i) Modernization of Central Forensic Sciences Laboratories at Bhopal, Guwahati, Pune and Kolkata has been undertaken at a total cost of Rs.253.27 crore. The modern laboratories at Bhopal, Guwahati and Pune have already commenced functioning.**

**(ii) Upgrading of machinery & equipment in the Central Forensic Sciences Laboratories, including in the new disciplines of Forensics in Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances, Digital Forensics, DNA Forensic analysis, Forensic Psychology. Procurement of 269 equipment have already been completed at a total cost of Rs.55.62 Crore.**

**(iii) Setting-up a State-of-the-art DNA Analysis and Research & Development facility at the Central Forensic Sciences Laboratory at Chandigarh**

**(iv) Setting up a National Cyber Forensic Science Laboratory at the Central Forensic Sciences Laboratory, Hyderabad to investigate important cases of digital fraud / cyber forensics.**

**(v) Operationalizing an e-Forensics IT platform, which connects 117 forensic science laboratories (Central and State) in the country.**

**(vi) Approval of assistance to States/ Union Territories for strengthening DNA analysis, Cyber-forensics and related facilities in States/Union Territories. 23 States/ Union Territories have already availed Rs.203.45 crore as assistance.**

**(vii) Approval of a Scheme for Modernization of Forensic Capacities for assisting States/ Union Territories to develop high quality forensic science facilities in the States/UTs to facilitate timely investigation through modernization of machinery and equipment after a gap-analysis, and facilitating availability of trained manpower in these laboratories.**

**(viii) The Directorate of Forensic Science Services under the Ministry of Home Affairs, to ensure quality and standardization in forensic examination in the Forensic Science Laboratories in the country, has issued Quality Manuals for accreditation of laboratories as per NABL standards (ISO 17025); Working Procedure Manuals in various disciplines of Forensic Sciences; Guidelines for collection, preservation & transportation of forensic evidence in sexual assault cases for Investigation Officers and medical Officers; a Standard list of Equipment for establishing/upgrading of Forensic Sciences Laboratories; and Standard Operating Procedures for Crime Scene Investigation.**

**(b) and (c):** Taking into account the shortage of skilled and qualified manpower in the field of forensic sciences in our country, the Government has established the National Forensic Sciences University in the year 2020 as an Institution of National Importance through an Act of Parliament. The National Forensic Sciences University has also set up a Centre of Excellence in the field of Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances in collaboration with the Narcotics Control Bureau for research and analysis.

**(d):** In order to enhance the outreach, the National Forensic Sciences University has requested States/ Union Territories to identify their colleges/Institutions for affiliation with the University to undertake forensic sciences courses. At present, apart from the campuses at Gandhinagar and Delhi, the University has commenced two new campuses in Goa and Tripura. Opening of a new campus by the University is an ongoing process and is a function of feasibility and demand.

**(e):** There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

**(f):** Setting up of new Regional forensic science facility is a State subject and is dependent on the specific requirement of implementation of law by the States/ Union Territories.