## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

## LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2484

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 06<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2024/ SHRAVAN 15, 1946 (SAKA)

NATIONAL FORENSIC INFRASTRUCTURE ENHANCEMENT SCHEME

2484 SHRI BIPLAB KUMAR DEB:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the recently approved National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme;
- (b) the details as to how the Scheme is of relevance in the context of the new criminal laws in force; and
- (c) whether there is any proposal of the Government to set up forensic infrastructure in the State of Tripura?

## **ANSWER**

## MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BANDI SANJAY KUMAR)

(a) A "National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme (NFIES)" has been approved by the Government on 19.06.2024 with a total financial outlay of ₹2254.43 crore from financial year 2024-25 to 2028-29. This scheme will enhance the forensic testing infrastructure, address the shortage of forensic professionals and fast track the examination of cases in the forensic science laboratories in the country. The Scheme comprises establishment of 09 off-campuses of the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU), 07 Central Forensic Science Laboratories in the country, and enhancement of existing infrastructure of the Delhi Campus of the NFSU.

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(b) With the enactment of the new Criminal Laws which mandates forensic investigation for offences involving punishment of 7 years or more, a significant increase in the workload of forensic science laboratories is expected. To meet this heightened demand, significant investment and enhancement in the national forensic infrastructure is imperative. Establishment of additional off-campuses of the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) and Central Forensic Science Laboratories (CFSLs) is essential to address the shortage of trained forensic manpower, alleviate the case load / pendency of forensic laboratories, and align with the goal of the Government of India in securing high conviction rate of more than 90%.

(c) The Ministry of Home Affairs has provided in-principle approval for setting up of an off-campus of the National Forensic Sciences University in Agartala (Tripura). The said campus is currently operational from a transit campus till the construction of permanent campus.

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