

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *201**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH DECEMBER, 2024/ AGRAHAYANA 19, 1946
(SAKA)**

STRENGTHENING DNA ANALYSIS AND CYBER FORENSIC CAPABILITIES

†*201. SHRI DILIP SAIKIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to formulate any scheme to strengthen DNA analysis and cyber forensic capabilities in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the Government also proposes to set up an Institute of National Importance in the field of forensic science and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *201 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 10.12.2024 REGARDING “STRENGTHENING OF DNA ANALYSIS AND CYBER FORENSIC CAPABILITIES”

(a): “Police” and “Public Order” are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibilities to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including investigation, prosecution of crime and criminals, and related forensic science facilities, are with the State/Union Territory concerned.

The Government has taken following steps to strengthen DNA analysis and cyber forensic capabilities in the country:

(i) There are 7 Central Forensic Science Laboratories (CFSL) in the country under Directorate of Forensic Science Services consisting of 11 scientific disciplines, including DNA and Cyber Forensics. These CFSLs are located at Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), Chandigarh, Kamrup (Assam), Hyderabad (Telangana), Pune (Maharashtra), Delhi and Kolkata (West Bengal). Further, the Government of India has approved setting up of eighth CFSL in Samba, Jammu. Apart from this, setting up of 07 additional CFSLs in the country with a total outlay of ₹860.3 crore has been approved under the National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme.

Further, as per the available information, there are 32 State Forensic Science Laboratories and 97 Regional Forensic Science Laboratories in the country.

(ii) Three new Central Forensic Sciences Laboratories have been established at Bhopal, Guwahati, and Pune and the existing CFSL at Kolkata has been modernized.

(iii) A State-of-the-art DNA Analysis and Research & Development facility has been set up at the Central Forensic Sciences Laboratory at Chandigarh.

(iv) A National Cyber Forensic Laboratory (NCFL) at the Central Forensic Sciences Laboratory, Hyderabad has been established to investigate important cases of digital fraud / cyber forensics. Further, the Government of India has approved for setting up of 06 additional NCFLs in the country at the CFSL Chandigarh, Delhi, Kolkata, Kamroop, Bhopal, and Pune with a total outlay of ₹126.84 crore.

(v) Machinery & Equipment has been upgraded 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.

(vi) In order to strengthen DNA Analysis and Cyber Forensic Capacities in State Forensic Science Laboratories (State FSLs), all projects (30) received from States/UTs have been approved to the tune of ₹245.29 crore. ₹185.28 crore have been released so far.

(vii) Under the Central Sector Scheme "Modernization of Forensic Capacities" (MOFC)", Rs 496.66 crore has been approved for providing Mobile Forensic Vans to all the districts and State FSLs in the country. So far, projects from 22 States/UTs have been approved for procurement of 400 mobile forensic vans.

(viii) In order to address the necessity for capacity building of manpower in forensic sciences, MHA is undertaking training for Investigating Officers, Prosecutors, and Medical Officers from States/UTs in collection, storage and handling of DNA evidence and use of Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits. So far 32,524 Investigating Officers, Prosecutors and Medical Officers have been trained. The Ministry of Home Affairs has also distributed 18020 Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits to the States/UTs as part of this training.

(ix) 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) including in DNA and Cyber divisions.**
- Guidelines for collection, preservation & transportation of forensic evidence in sexual assault cases for Investigation Officers and medical Officers.**

(b): The National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) has been set up under the Act of the Parliament in the year 2020 for providing quality and trained forensic manpower across all parts of the country. Apart from the initial campuses of the NFSU in Gandhinagar (Gujarat) and Delhi, in-principle approval has been provided for setting up of 05 additional off-campus of the NFSU in Goa, Agartala (Tripura), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), Dharwad (Karnataka), and Guwahati (Assam). These additional campuses are currently operational from transit campuses till the construction of permanent campuses. Apart from this, the NFSU has also

set up training/skilling academies in Imphal (Manipur) and Pune (Maharashtra). Further, the Cabinet on 19.06.2024 has approved “National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme” which inter-alia includes the component for setting up of 09 additional campuses of the NFSU in the country with a total financial outlay of ₹1309.13 crore from financial year 2024-2025 to 2028-2029.
