

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3452**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 17TH DECEMBER, 2024/ AGRAHAYANA 26, 1946
(SAKA)**

INFRASTRUCTURE IN FORENSIC LABORATORIES

**3452. SHRI KRIPANATH MALLAH:
SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the recently approved National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme along with the extant to which the scheme is of relevance in the context of the new criminal laws in force;

(b) the details of total number of Central Forensic Science Laboratories (CFSLs), State Forensic Science Laboratories (SFSLs) and Regional Forensic Science Laboratories (RFSLs) in the country, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the total number of vacancies in the CFSLs, SFSLs, RFSLs in the country, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh;

(d) the total number of pending matters before each CFSLs, SFSLs, RFSLs, in the country, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) whether the Government has taken any steps to reduce pendency before forensic laboratories during the last five years and if so, the details thereof?

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-campus 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.

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-campus 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.

(b) Presently, there are 7 Central Forensic Science Laboratories (CFSL) in the country under Directorate of Forensic Science Services. 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. The State-wise details of forensic labs of the States / Union Territories, including Andhra Pradesh, may be seen at Annexure.

(c) The data regarding vacancy position in State Forensic Science Laboratories (SFSLs) is not maintained centrally. As per available information, there are 123 vacancies in seven Central Forensic Science Laboratories under the Directorate of Forensic Science Services.

(d) The data regarding pendency of cases in State Forensic Science Laboratories (SFSLs) is not maintained centrally. In the last five years, (2020-21 to October 2024-25), a total of 69,826 cases have been received by the seven CFSLs. The pendency of cases in CFSLs (as on October, 2024) is as under:

CFSL	Pending cases
CFSL, Bhopal	87
CFSL, Chandigarh	665
CFSL, Delhi	937
CFSL, Hyderabad	423
CFSL, Kamrup	252
CFSL, Kolkata	1340
CFSL, Pune	249
Total	3953

(e) In order to reduce pendency, the Ministry of Home Affairs has taken following steps for strengthening of forensic capacities in the country:

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

- (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) An e-Forensics IT platform, which connects 117 forensic science laboratories (Central and State) in the country has been Operationalized.**
- (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) 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.**

(viii) Further, in the year 2022 a “Scheme for Modernization of Forensic Capacities” with a total financial outlay of ₹2080.5 crore has been approved. Under this scheme, assistance is available to States/ Union Territories to develop high quality forensic science facilities for modernization of machinery and equipment including mobile forensic vans, and facilitating availability of trained manpower in these laboratories through expansion of educational facilities for forensic science in the country. So far, funds to the tune of about ₹200 crore have been approved for 20 States / Union Territories for the component of “Modernization /Upgradation of Forensic Science Laboratories in States / Union Territories”. Further, under this Scheme so far, projects from 23 States/UTs have been approved for procurement of 433 mobile forensic vans.

(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) and Working Procedure Manuals in nine disciplines of Forensic Sciences.**
- For collection, preservation & transportation of forensic evidence in sexual assault cases for Investigation Officers and medical Officers**
- Standard list of Equipment for establishing/upgrading of Forensic Sciences Laboratories.**

The State-wise details of forensic labs of the States / Union Territories.

S. No.	States / UTs	No. of State FSLs	No. of Regional FSLs
1	A&N Islands	1	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	1	5
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1	0
4	Assam	1	5
5	Bihar	1	2
6	Chhattisgarh	1	3
7	Delhi	1	1
8	Gujarat	1	7
9	Goa	1	0
10	Haryana	1	4
11	Himachal Pradesh	1	2
12	Jharkhand	1	0
13	Jammu & Kashmir	1	1
14	Kerala	1	3
15	Karnataka	1	7
16	West Bengal	1	2
17	Madhya Pradesh	1	4
18	Maharashtra	1	12
19	Manipur	1	0
20	Meghalaya	1	0
21	Mizoram	1	0
22	Nagaland	1	0
23	Odisha	1	3
24	Puducherry	1	0
25	Punjab	1	3
26	Rajasthan	1	6
27	Sikkim	1	0
28	Tamil Nadu	1	10
29	Telangana	1	4
30	Tripura	1	0
31	Uttar Pradesh	1	12
32	Uttarakhand	1	1
	Total	32	97

(Source: Directorate of Forensic Science Services)
