

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RESEARCH**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3550
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST MARCH, 2025**

BIOSAFETY LABORATORIES

3550. SHRI B K PARTHASARATHI:

Will the **Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the existing strength of bio-safety laboratories in the country, State-wise classified as per their Bio-safety level (BSL), State/ UT-wise;
- (b) the details of the number of bio-safety labs established and under construction under the scheme for setting up of Nationwide Network of Laboratories for Managing Epidemics and National Calamities, State-wise and year-wise since 2021 as per their BSL and area level i.e. regional, State or medical college level; and
- (c) the details of the funds released by the Government for the establishment of Bio-safety labs under the said scheme, year-wise since 2021?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a): Department of Health Research (DHR), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has established a network of Virus Research and Diagnostic Laboratory (VRDL) under the central sector scheme "Setting up of a Nationwide Network of Laboratories for Managing Epidemics and National Calamities". Under this scheme, 165 bio-safety laboratories, including 11 BSL-3 level labs and 154 BSL-2 level labs have been approved. Besides that, there are 21 other bio-safety laboratories established at various institute of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), having equipped with different level of biosafety such as BSL-4 (1), BSL-3 (8) and BSL-2 (12). As informed by Department of Science & Technology (DST), Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) has also funded 5 BSL/ABSL-3 labs under the Intensification of Research in High Priority Areas (IRHPA) programme. Based on inputs from the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), 26 bio-safety laboratories have been established in various institutes of DBT.

According to Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR), 9 bio-safety laboratories have been established in various institutes of ICAR. As per information provided by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), 11 bio-safety laboratories have been established in various institutes of CSIR.

The State-wise breakup of Bio-safety laboratories is annexed at Annexure-I.

(b): Since the year 2021, a total of 42 Virus Research and Diagnostic Laboratories have been approved under the scheme "Setting up of a Nationwide Network of Laboratories for Managing Epidemics and National Calamities, out of which 41 labs are BSL-2 and 1 lab is BSL-3. These labs are mainly located in the Microbiology Departments of various medical colleges and research institutions. The funds from the scheme are utilized for upgradation of infrastructure, procurement of equipment, consumables and manpower support. These labs are mandated to conduct diagnosis & research on mainly viral pathogens of public health importance. The testing data are fed on the dedicated data portal setup at ICMR-National Institute of Epidemiology (ICMR-NIE), Chennai, which also has data sharing interface with Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) portal. The laboratory is considered functional once the lab starts reporting on the data portal.

As on date, out of 42 VRDLs, 38 labs are functional since these are reporting the testing data on the ICMR-NIE portal. 4 labs namely, Nagaon Medical College & Hospital, Nagaon, Assam; Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology (SCTIMST), Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala; Dr Laxminarayan Pandey Government Medical College, Ratlam and Dr B.R. Ambedkar State Institute of Medical Sciences, Mohali were sanctioned in the current financial year 2024-25. The detailed breakup, state-wise, level and their biosafety level is annexed at Annexure-II.

(c): The details of the funds released for the establishment of Bio-safety labs under the said scheme, year-wise since 2021 is given in Annexure-III.

Annexure-I**A. Biosafety labs approved / established under DHR-ICMR**

Sr. No.	Name of State/UT	Bio-safety Level			Total
		BSL-2	BSL-3	BSL-4	
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2	0	0	2
2.	Andhra Pradesh	9	0	0	9
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	0	0	1
4.	Assam	9	2	0	11
5.	Bihar	5	1	0	6
6.	Chandigarh	1	1	0	2
7.	Chhattisgarh	6	0	0	6
8.	Delhi	7	1	0	8
9.	Goa	1	0	0	1
10.	Gujarat	8	0	0	8
11.	Haryana	3	0	0	3
12.	Himachal Pradesh	4	1	0	5
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	5	0	0	5
14.	Jharkhand	3	0	0	3
15.	Karnataka	11	0	0	11
16.	Kerala	7	1	0	8
17.	Madhya Pradesh	6	1	0	7
18.	Maharashtra	12	3	1	16
19.	Manipur	2	0	0	2
20.	Meghalaya	1	0	0	1
21.	Mizoram	1	0	0	1
22.	Odisha	8	1	0	9
23.	Puducherry	1	1	0	2
24.	Punjab	5	0	0	5
25.	Rajasthan	8	1	0	9
26.	Tamil Nadu	12	2	0	14
27.	Tripura	1	0	0	1
28.	Telangana	4	1	0	5
29.	Uttar Pradesh	11	1	0	12
30.	Uttarakhand	3	0	0	3
31.	West Bengal	9	1	0	10
	Total	166	19	1	186

B. Biosafety labs funded by Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), Department of Science & Technology (DST)

Sr. No.	Name of State/UT	BSL/ABSL 3
1	Andhra Pradesh	1
2	Karnataka	1
3	Telangana	1
4	West Bengal	1
5	Rajasthan	1

C. Biosafety labs established at various institutes of Department of Biotechnology (DBT)

Sr. No.	Name of State/UT	BSL-2	BSL-3
1	Delhi	3	4
2	Haryana	3	3
3	Karnataka	1	1
4	Kerala	1	1
5	Maharashtra	1	0
6	Manipur	1	0
7	Odisha	1	1
8	Punjab	1	0
9	Telangana	2	0
10	West Bengal	1	1

D. Biosafety labs established at various institutes of Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR)

Sr. No.	Name of State/UT	BSL-2	BSL-3
1	Delhi	2	0
2	Haryana	0	1
3	Kerala	1	0
4	Maharashtra	1	0
5	Madhya Pradesh	0	1
6	Odisha	0	1
7	Uttar Pradesh	1	1

E. Biosafety labs established at various institutes of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

Sr. No.	Name of State/UT	BSL-2/ABSL-2	BSL-3
1	Chandigarh	3	1
2	Delhi	0	1
3	Jammu & Kashmir	0	1
4	Telangana	0	1
5	Uttar Pradesh	2	1
6	West Bengal	1	0

Annexure-II**The list of VRDLs sanctioned from the year 2021**

State/UT	Level	BSL Category	Name of labs	Year of Sanction
Andhra Pradesh	Medical college Level	BSL-2	All India Institute of Medical and Sciences, Mangalagiri	2021-22
	Medical college Level	BSL-2	Kurnool Medical College, Kurnool	2022-23
Arunachal Pradesh	Medical college Level	BSL-2	Tomo Riba Institute Health and Medical Sciences (TRIHMS), Naharlagun	2022-23
Assam	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Diphu Medical College & Hospital, Diphu	2022-23
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Guwahati	2022-23
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Lakhimpur Medical College & Hospital	2023-24
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Nagaon Medical College & Hospital, Nagaon	2024-25
Chhattisgarh	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Pt. JNM Medical College, Raipur	2022-23
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Chhattisgarh Institute of Medical Sciences, Bilaspur	2022-23
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Late Shrimati Indira Gandhi Memorial Government Medical College, North Bastar Kanker	2022-23
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Chandulal Chandrakar Memorial Government Medical College, Durg	2023-24
Delhi	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Army Hospital Research and Referral Dhaula Kuan	2022-23
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Vallabhbai Patel Chest Institute (VPCI), University of Delhi	2023-24
Gujrat	Medical College Level	BSL-2	All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Rajkot	2022-23
Haryana	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Kalpana Chawla Government Medical College, Karnal	2022-23
Himachal Pradesh	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru Govt. medical College, Chamba	2021-22
	Regional level	BSL-3	All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bilaspur	2022-23
Jammu & Kashmir	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Government Medical College, Baramulla	2021-22
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Government Medical College, Anantnag	2022-23

Jharkhand	State Level	BSL-2	All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Deogarh	2021-22
Karnataka	Medical College Level	BSL-2	National Institute of Traditional Medicine Belagavi	2023-24
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	National Institute of Mental Health & Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore	2023-24
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Kodagu Institute of Medical Sciences, Madikeri	2023-24
Kerala	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Government Medical College, Kannur, Pariyaram	2021-22
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Government Medical College Manjeri, Malapuram	2023-24
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Government Medical College, Ernakulam, Kerala	2023-24
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology (SCTIMST), Thiruvananthapuram	2024-25
Maharashtra	State Level	BSL-2	Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC), Pune	2021-22
Madhya Pradesh	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Dr Laxminarayan Pandey Government Medical College, Ratlam	2024-25
Odisha	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Maharaja Krishna Chandra Gajapati Medical College and Hospital, Brahmapur	2021-22
Punjab	Medical College Level	BSL-2	AIIMS, Bathinda	2022-23
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Dr B.R. Ambedkar State Institute of Medical Sciences, Mohali	2024-25
Rajasthan	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Government Medical College, Kota	2021-22
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Military Hospital Jodhpur	2022-23
Tamil Nadu	Medical College Level	BSL-2	ICMR-National Institute for Research in Tuberculosis, Chennai	2021-22
Telangana	Medical College Level	BSL-2	All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bibinagar	2021-22
Uttar Pradesh	Medical College Level	BSL-2	All India Institute of Medical Science Raebareli	2021-22
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Government Institute of Medical Sciences, Greater Noida	2021-22
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	LLRM Medical College, Meerut	2022-23
	Medical	BSL-2	Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate	2023-24

	College Level		Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow	
West Bengal	Medical College Level	BSL-2	Diamond Harbour Govt. Medical College & Hospital, Diamond Harbour	2021-22
	Medical College Level	BSL-2	All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Kalyani	2021-22
Total		42		

Annexure III

The details of fund released under the mentioned scheme is as follows:

Year	Total amount released under the scheme (Rs in crore)
2021-22	75.79
2022-23	63.00
2023-24	60.00
2024-25 (As on 20.03.2025)	60.99