GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3819

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12TH AUGUST, 2025/ SRAVANA 21, 1947 (SAKA)

CENTRAL FORENSIC SCIENCE LABORATORIES

3819. SHRI RAO RAJENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any data on the number of Central Forensic Science Laboratories (CFSL) in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether in view of newly formulated criminal laws and the steps taken by the Ministry to upgrade forensic labs and related infrastructure in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether there is a proposal to set up more CFSLs in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, including Rajasthan?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f) At present, there are 07 Central Forensic Science Laboratories (CFSLs) in the country located in Chandigarh, Delhi, Kamrup, Kolkata, Bhopal, Pune, and Hyderabad. In-principle approval has been provided for setting up of 8th CFSL in Jammu with a total financial outlay of ₹99.9 crore. Further, the Government has approved the National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme which inter-alia includes the

component for setting up of 07 additional CFSLs in the country with a total financial outlay of ₹860.3 crore. In-principle approval has been provided for setting up of these 07 CFSLs in Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, and Kerala.

Following steps have been taken by the Government to upgrade forensic labs and related infrastructure in the country:

- (i) Projects of 30 States/UTs to the tune of ₹245.29 crore have been approved under the Nirbhaya funded scheme for Strengthening of DNA Analysis and Cyber Forensic Capacities in State Forensic Science Laboratories.
- (ii) A State-of-the-art DNA Analysis and Research & Development facility has been set up at the Central Forensic Sciences Laboratory at Chandigarh.
- (iii) Central Forensic Sciences Laboratories at Bhopal, Guwahati, Pune and Kolkata have been modernised.
- (iv) Machinery & equipment have 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.

- (v) A National Cyber Forensic Laboratory at the Central Forensic Sciences Laboratory, Hyderabad has been set up to investigate important cases of digital fraud / cyber forensics.
- (vi) e-Forensics IT platform has been operationalized, which connects 117 forensic science laboratories (Central and State) in the country.
- (vii) 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. The headquarter of the NFSU is located in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. Apart from this, campuses of the NFSU are situated at Delhi, Goa, Agartala (Tripura), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), Dharwad (Karnataka), and Guwahati (Assam). The NFSU has also started training academies in Imphal (Manipur) and Pune (Maharashtra). Further, in-principle approval has been provided for setting up of 09 additional off-campuses of the NFSU in Maharashtra, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, West Pradesh under the Bengal, Bihar, and Uttar National Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme with a total financial outlay of ₹1309.13 crore.
- (viii) A Scheme for Modernization of Forensic Capacities with a total financial outlay of ₹2080.5 Crore has been approved. This provides assistance to States/ Union Territories to develop high quality forensic

science facilities for modernization of machinery and equipment, 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 ₹215 crore have been approved for 24 States / Union Territories for the component of "Modernization / Upgradation of Forensic Science Laboratories in States / Union Territories" and about ₹344 crore have been approved for 28 States / Union Territories for the component of "Mobile Forensic Vans for all districts and State FSLs in the country" under the Scheme.

- (ix) Setting up of 06 additional National Cyber Forensic Laboratories with a financial outlay of ₹126.84 crore has been approved under the umbrella scheme "Safety of Women".
- (x) 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.
 - Guidelines 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.
- (xi) The Government has approved establishment of National Forensic Data Centre under the umbrella scheme "Safety of Women" with a total financial outlay of ₹200.16 crore to systematically store and manage forensic data electronically.
