

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4485**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 20.08.2025

**NOTIFICATION OF STATE AND CENTRAL FORENSIC SCIENCE LABORATORIES**

**4485. SHRI SHAHU SHAHAJI CHHATRAPATI:**

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has notified all State and Central Forensic Science Laboratories as 'Examiners of Electronic Evidence' under Section 79A of the IT Act, 2000 and if so, the details of the notified laboratories;
- (b) whether all forensic labs have not been notified under Section 79A and if so, the reasons for the delay in their notification;
- (c) the details of criteria or standards used by the Government to notify a lab as an 'Examiner of Electronic Evidence' under Section 79A of the IT Act;
- (d) whether the Government is considering amending the IT Act, 2000 to include or recognize private forensic laboratories as Examiners of Electronic Evidence; and
- (e) the details of measures being taken to ensure adequate geographical and institutional coverage of notified Examiners of Electronic Evidence across the country?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) to (e): As per the section 79A of Information Technology Act, 2000 (IT Act, 2000), the Central Government may, for the purposes of providing expert opinion on electronic form evidence before any court or other authority specify, by notification in the Official Gazette, any Department, body or agency of the Central Government or a State Government as an Examiner of Electronic Evidence. So far, 18 laboratories from the Central and State Governments have been notified as examiner of electronic evidence. The complete list of notified labs as Examiner of Electronic Evidence is provided at Annexure-I

The criteria and standards for notification are laid down in the scheme formulated by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), which inter-alia, includes:

- (i.) Availability of a proper laboratory quality management system based on international standards of the International Organization for Standardization/ International Electrotechnical Commission (ISO/IEC 17025) (Standard on general requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories) and reasonable experience to demonstrate their overall competency and expert opinion on digital evidence.
- (ii.) Practices as defined in ISO/IEC 27037 (A Standard on Information technology - Security techniques - Guidelines for identification, collection, acquisition and preservation of digital evidence).

- (iii.) Availability of technical, skilled professional manpower in digital forensics, licensed tools and equipment, availability of suitable environment to carry out such evaluation.

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has developed a scheme for notification of Examiner of Electronic Evidence which includes submission of application followed by assessment of lab. The application form for the purpose is available on MeitY website. Any applicant department, body or agency of the Central Government or a State Government complying with the criteria laid down in the scheme may submit the requisite application.

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#### Annexure-I

#### **List of forensic science laboratories notified as Examiner of Electronic Evidence under Section 79A of IT Act 2000**

1. Computer Forensic Division, Goa Forensic Science Laboratory, Goa Police Department, Goa
2. Cyber Forensics & Digital Evidence Examiners Laboratory (CF&DEEL), Kolkata – West Bengal
3. Cyber Forensic Division, State Forensics Science Laboratory (SFSL), Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
4. Regional Forensic Science Laboratory (RFSL), Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh
5. Digital Forensic Laboratory, Cyber Defence Center, National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU), Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat
6. Directorate of Forensic Science, Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat
7. Regional Forensic Science Laboratory (RFSL), Surat, Gujarat
8. Cyber Forensic Laboratory, Air Force Cyber Group, New Delhi
9. Cyber Forensic Laboratory, Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), New Delhi
10. Cyber Forensics Laboratory, Navy Cyber Group, New Delhi
11. Cyber Forensic Laboratory, Army Cyber Group, New Delhi
12. Computer Forensic and Data Mining Laboratory, Serious Fraud Investigation Office, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, New Delhi
13. Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL), Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, Rohini, New Delhi
14. Forensic Wing Lab, Defence Cyber Agency (DCyA), New Delhi
15. State Forensic Science Laboratory (SFSL), Directorate of Forensic Sciences, Police Department, Bangalore, Karnataka
16. Forensics Science Department, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
17. Central Forensic Science Laboratory, Hyderabad, Telangana
18. Telangana State Forensic Science Laboratory (TSFSL), Hyderabad, Telangana

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