

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5239**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 24TH MARCH, 2026/ CHAITRA 3, 1948 (SAKA)

CFSL SUPPORT FOR FORENSIC INVESTIGATION

5239. SHRI JAGANNATH SARKAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of the establishment of the National Cyber Forensic Laboratory (CFSL) at Kolkata and five other CFSLs and the expected timeline for it to become fully operational;**
- (b) the details of infrastructure upgrades undertaken at CFSL Kolkata to support cyber forensic investigations, including the types of equipment and technologies installed;**
- (c) the number of cyber crime cases handled by CFSL Kolkata during the last three years and whether the new Cyber Forensic Laboratory will help reduce the backlog, if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) the sanctioned and present strength of technical and forensic experts specializing in cyber forensics at CFSL Kolkata;**
- (e) whether there are plans to recruit additional professionals to enhance its capabilities, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (f) the steps are being taken to ensure CFSL Kolkata remains equipped to handle emerging cyber threats, including training programmes, collaborations with international forensic agencies, and funding allocations?**

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): The Government has approved establishment of 06 National Cyber Forensic Laboratories (NCFLs) in 06 Central Forensic Science Laboratories (CFSLs) located at Delhi, Kamrup (Assam), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), Pune (Maharashtra), Chandigarh, and Kolkata (West Bengal) at a total financial outlay of ₹126.84 crore, to strengthen cyber forensic investigations to handle emerging cyber threats. At present, NCFLs at Delhi and Kamrup (Assam) are operational. The remaining NCFLs, including at Kolkata, are at various stages of establishment.

The CFSL Kolkata is equipped with necessary cyber forensic tools like Mobile Forensic Tools, Disk Forensic Tools, DVR Forensic Tools, etc. to support cyber forensic investigations to handle emerging cyber threats.

(c): A total of about 794 cyber / computer forensic cases were handled by CFSL Kolkata during the last three years. The establishment of National Cyber Forensic Laboratories (NCFLs) is aimed at augmenting the cyber forensic examination capacity of the Central Forensic Science Laboratories by providing specialized infrastructure, advanced tools and dedicated expertise for handling Cyber/digital evidence. This enhanced capacity is aimed at facilitating examination of cyber related cases.

(d) and (e): At present, a total of 03 (three) in-house regular experts and contractual forensic professionals are handling cyber forensic cases at CFSL Kolkata. Additionally, 10 Digital Experts have also been engaged by the CFSL Kolkata on contractual basis to support cyber forensic examination in the laboratory. Recruitment of scientific manpower in the CFSLs is an on-going process.

(f): CFSL Kolkata is equipped with the infrastructure developed to support examination of cases, including cyber-related cases, further, strengthening and upgradation of the laboratory, including procurement of advanced cyber forensic tools, conduct of necessary training programmes, and collaborations with international forensic agencies, is an ongoing process.
