

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4430
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH AUGUST, 2016**

FOOD SAFETY INFRASTRUCTURE

4430. SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any plan to strengthen the food safety infrastructure at State level including State level laboratories to carry out sophisticated test on a variety of food items;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said plans have not been implemented till date, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to expeditiously implement the said programme?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)**

(a) & (b): The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has formulated a scheme for “Strengthening of Food Testing System in the country” at an estimated cost of Rs. 481.95 Cr., which comprises following components:

- (i) strengthening of State Food Testing Laboratories (at least one laboratory in each State with a provision of two laboratories in large States);
- (ii) strengthening of Referral Food Testing Laboratories;
- (iii) support for Mobile Food Testing Laboratories (one mobile laboratory for every 20 districts with at least one in each State/UT);
- (iv) capacity building of Food Testing Laboratories, including accreditation of State food laboratories by the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL);
- (v) incentivising States to utilise testing facilities available in FSSAI notified laboratories; and
- (vi) School Food & Hygiene Programme.

(c) & (d): The Scheme has been referred to the Ministries/Departments for their comments on 20.06.2016.

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