GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1369 ANSWERED ON:22.08.2007 DNA TEST LABS Kader Mohideen Shri K.M.

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

- (a) whether the DNA technique is a sound method to detect crimes;
- (b) the total number of laboratories to conduct the DNA tests in the country;
- (c) whether the existing laboratories are inadequate to conduct the tests; and
- (d) if so, the tests being taken by the Government to establish more such laboratories in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

- (a): According to the information received form Ministry of Home Affairs, the DNA technique is very robust, sound and potential tool to detect crimes.
- (b): Accordingly, Directorate of Forensic Science, Ministry of Home Affairs, Central Forensic Science Laboratories at Kolkatta, Hyderabad, Chandigarh and New Delhi conduct DNA tests. The centre for DNA Diagnostics and Finger Printing (CDFD), Hyderabad under the Department of Bio-Technology is also having state of art DNA typing facility. In addition, state level forensic laboratories functioning at Delhi, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Assam, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh have DNA typing facilities.
- (c): Yes, Sir.
- (d): The Directorate of Forensic Science under Ministry of Home Affairs, the nodal organization in the country to promote forensic science, offers consultancy and training to various state FSLs in establishing DNA testing facilities. Many training programmes and workshops are being conducted in this regard. Through the scheme of Police Modernization Grant the Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, also helps the state governments in the creation of modern DNA testing facilitates. The Directorate of Forensic Science and the CDFD, Hyderabad have jointly prepared an integrated proposal to expand DNA testing facilities in the country.