

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2607
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2009
TESTING LABORATORIES FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASE
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

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

- (a) whether there is shortage of testing laboratories for detecting Communicable diseases in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of such laboratories in the country State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Union Government has received any proposals from the State Governments including the State Government of Tamil Nadu for the setting up of more testing laboratories; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof State-wise and the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) and (b): There are laboratories at various levels for diagnosis of communicable diseases. At the national level these include NCDC, Delhi, NIV, Pune, NICED Kolkata, JIPMER, Puducherry, PGI, Chandigarh, AIIMS, Delhi etc. There are laboratories in all the medical colleges of the country numbering about 270. In addition, there are laboratories at the State, District, CHC and PHC levels.

There are 12688 designated Microscopy Centres for diagnosis of TB in the country (Annexure-I).

Diagnosis of Malaria is done at all the levels including PHC. For diagnosis of Chikungunya and Dengue, 137 sentinel laboratories have been established (Annexure-II). 51 sentinel laboratories have been operationalised for diagnosis of Japanese Encephalitis (JE) in the 12 endemic states (Annexure-III).

For diagnosis of pandemic H1N1, a total of 44 laboratories including 26 in the public sector have been established (Annexure-IV).

(c) and (d); No proposal has been received from State Governments including from Tamil Nadu for setting up of more testing laboratories.