

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6169
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2010
BRAIN MAPPING
Mani Shri Jose K.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the laboratories having brain mapping facilities in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has set up a committee under the Director, National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro- Sciences (NIMHANS) to examine the brain mapping procedure in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the said committee was dissolved by the Government prior to the submission of its final report; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

- (a): The brain mapping facilities are available in the State Forensic Science Laboratories at Gandhinagar (Gujarat), Bangaluru (Karnataka) and Mumbai (Mahashtra).
- (b): Yes, Madam.
- (c): A Committee was constituted by the Directorate of Forensic Science (DFS) in May, 2007 to peer review the technology of Brain Mapping facilities/Brain Electric Oscillation Signature (BEOS) in India to suggest improvements in the technology.
- (d) & (e): The committee was dissolved by the DFS prior to the submission of its final report. The preliminary report/interim report of the committee was objected to by the DFS based on many scientific reasons. The board reasons for dissolving the committee were as under:-
 1. The time frame given to the Committee to submit its report was three months but the entire process got delayed and the committee could not submit the final report almost for one year.
 2. The full committee did not visit Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) Mumbai and FSL, Gujarat to physically see and assess the working status of this tool.
 3. In the last meeting held in DFS, Head Quarters, New Delhi in which the representative of FSL, Mumbai, FSL, Gujarat, Central Forensic Science Laboratory, Chandigarh and Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CBI), New Delhi were present it was unanimously decided to dissolve the committee in the absence of any concrete guidelines and suggestions coming from the peer review committee to further evaluate BEOS and brain mapping techniques.
 4. Almost during the same period, FSL, Gujarat undertook a research project funded by Department of Science and Technology, Government of India to evaluate the efficacy of the Brain Mapping technique through normative studies and the results showed encouraging findings.