

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4464
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009
FORENSIC SCIENCE LABORATORIES
Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal for modernising and upgrading the equipment of Forensic Science Laboratories in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated for the purpose;
- (c) whether the number of forensic laboratories in India is adequate to handle various investigations;
- (d) if so, the total number of laboratories functioning in the country;
- (e) whether inadequacies in the Forensic Science have affected the timely administration of the criminal justice system; and
- (f) if so, the remedial action taken/ proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (f): Group of Ministers on Internal Security, Verrappa Moily Commission on Administrative Reforms recommended that to meet the growing challenge of crimes in India, the forensic support need to be augmented & strengthened. At present there are 9 laboratories at Central Government level and 107 laboratories at State Government level catering to the various needs of the investigating agencies. The State Forensic Science Laboratories are availing funds under Police Modernisation Scheme (MPF) to modernize and upgrade their forensic facilities. Under the 11th Five Year Plan following Schemes of Directorate of Forensic Science (DFS) have been prioritized / approved viz.

Composite Scheme on "Modernization of Forensic Science Applications" for DFS and its outlying units of MHA, GOI – outlay Rs. 200 crores.

Composite Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme of "Creation of RFSLs and DMFUs for States and UTs – Outlay Rs. 100 crores.

In the Composite Scheme on "Modernization of Forensic Science Application" there are 26 Plan Schemes which inter-alia contain the schemes of establishment of New Hi-Tech Central Forensic Science Laboratories (CFSLs) and Government Examiners of Questioned Documents (GEsQD), Creation of National DNA database facility, Creation of New Forensic Divisions/Modernization of CFSLs and GEsQD etc. Similarly in respect of the scheme of "Creation of Regional Forensic Science Laboratories (RFSLs) and District Mobile Forensic Units (DMFUs)", there is proposal for creation of 6 Regional Forensic Science Laboratories and 52 Mobile Forensic Science Laboratories in different States. All these efforts would improve Forensic Science services / support resulting in crime prevention and timely detection resulting in increase in overall conviction rate which would act as a deterrent to perpetration of crimes.