

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3894
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2012
FOOD TESTING LABORATORIES
Rani Killi Krupa

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

- (a) the number of Food Testing Laboratories (FTLs) set up in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether these laboratories meet the international standards and the demand of the industry;
- (c) if not, the measures taken by the Government to upgrade these laboratories;
- (d) the details of laboratories likely to be upgraded/modernized in each State, State-wise; and
- (e) the total funds sanctioned and expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years till date?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a) to (e): There are 123 Food Testing Laboratories in the country for testing food items as per standards prescribed under the Food Safety and Standards Authority Act, 2006 and Rules/Regulations, 2011. Out of these, 49 laboratories have National Accreditation Board for Laboratories (NABL) accreditation. State Governments have set up 72 food testing laboratories. State-wise details are as per Annexure. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has conducted a 'Gap study' to assess the existing status of the food testing laboratories. Modernization and upgradation of food testing laboratories is a continuous process and funds are sanctioned based on available budgetary provision.