

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3594
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2013
LABORATORIES OF BIS .
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Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the role and functions of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS);
- (b) the number of regional laboratories of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) presently functional in the country, State wise;
- (c) whether there is any proposal for opening more such BIS laboratories and training centres in the States during the current year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) the details of the schemes for monitoring and modernisation of such laboratories and training centres?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

(a) : The role and functions of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) are incorporated in the BIS Act 1986. Bureau is entrusted with the role of harmonious development of activities of standardization, marking and quality certification of goods and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The powers and functions of the Bureau are prescribed under sec.10 (1) of the Act are given in Annexure-I.

(b) : Presently, the following regional laboratories are functional in the country, state wise:

- i) Northern Regional Laboratory at Mohali (Punjab)
- ii) Southern Regional Laboratory at Chennai (Tamilnadu)
- iii) Eastern Regional Laboratory at Kolkata (West Bengal)
- iv) Western Regional Laboratory at Mumbai (Maharashtra)

(c) & (d) : There is no such proposal at present.

(e) : Laboratory activity is headed by Scientist-G & Chief (Laboratory) under whose control Heads of different BIS laboratories function.

1) Monitoring of laboratories – The following are used as tools for monitoring the activity of BIS laboratories:

- i) Lab Heads Meetings conducted once in a year.
- ii) Management Review Meetings conducted once in a year.
- iii) Internal Audits conducted once in a year.
- iv) Review of Management Control Reports on monthly basis.
- v) Independent assessment by NABL, before renewal of accreditation every two years.
- vi) Quality Assurance Testing by each lab.
- vii) Participation in Inter Laboratory Comparison (ILC) Testing.

2) Modernization of laboratories – The testing facilities in BIS laboratories are added/ upgraded on a continuous basis, as per requirement. The equipments added in the last three years (1-1-2010 to 31-12-2012) are given in Annex-II.

3) There is no training centre relating to laboratory. BIS has a training institute namely National Institute of Training for Standardization (NITS) situated in NOIDA (UP). This institute provides training to laboratory personnel for Laboratory Quality Management System according to IS/ISO/IEC 17025 as and when required.