

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4769
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2013
BIS LABORATORIES
Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount spent on modernization of laboratories under the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS);
- (b) whether the BIS is outsourcing the testing of samples for verification of quality/ standards;
- (c) if so, the details thereof indicating the criteria adopted for selection of private/ outsourced laboratories and the amount spent on testing of samples in such laboratories;
- (d) the number of private/outsourced laboratories approved by BIS for testing stationery papers; and
- (e) the reasons for non-granting of approval to Government laboratories like BIZ RITES, Central Pulp and Paper Research Institute and Forest Research Institutes?

Answer

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

(a) : The amount spent on modernization of laboratories under the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) from 1st January, 2010 to 31st March 2013 is Rs. 1,41,78,027.

(b) :Yes, Madam.

(c) : Outside laboratories are recognized by BIS as per the provisions of Section 10(1)

(h) of Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986 and rule 10(2) (a) of BIS Rules, 1987. Recognition is granted to a laboratory upon receipt of an application under BIS Lab Recognition Scheme for testing of product(s) as per relevant Indian Standard Specification. The following are the main criteria for recognition of any outside laboratory:

i) The laboratory seeking BIS recognition must be National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) accredited.

ii) The laboratory shall have requisite test facilities and infrastructure for testing of the product(s) as per relevant Indian Standard Specification for which recognition is sought.

iii) The laboratory shall have requisite capability and competent testing personnel to test the product(s) as per relevant Indian Standard Specification for which recognition is sought.

As on date there are 144 outside laboratories which have been recognized by BIS. Samples are sent to BIS approved laboratories (private as well as Government) keeping in view the following:

A) The applicant and complaint samples are preferably tested in BIS laboratories, if testing facilities exist;

B) Factory samples and market samples are tested at BIS/BIS approved laboratories considering testing charges and keeping in view that sending of samples of one particular licensee repeatedly to the same laboratory is avoided.

The payment made to outside BIS recognized labs on account of testing charges for the year 2011-12 was Rs.7.8 crores and for the year 2012-13 (upto December 2012) is Rs.6.45 crores.

(d): Details of the labs recognized by BIS for various types of papers is given in Annexure I.

(e) : Recognition under BIS Lab Recognition Scheme to outside laboratories whether Private or Government is granted upon receipt of application from any laboratory and who fulfill the criteria and requirements of recognition under the scheme. None of the above mentioned labs have applied for recognition to BIS.