

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:747  
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2015  
FOOD SAFETY ACT  
Jaiswal Dr. Sanjay

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

- (a) the number of trained inspectors and certified lab facilities working towards the enforcement of the Food Safety and Standards Act in the country, State/UTwise;
- (b) whether there is a shortfall of trained inspectors needed for enforcement of the said Act, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has expanded the number of trained inspectors over the past three years and the current year, if so, the details thereof State/ UTwise; and
- (d) the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government for proper enforcement of the said Act across the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

- (a): The information in respect of Food Inspectors (redesignated as Food Safety Officers) appointed by the States is not maintained Centrally. State-wise details of the existing 148 Food Testing Laboratories are at Annexure.
- (b): The number of Food Safety Officers appointed so far is lower than the requirement of personnel for enforcement of the Food Safety and Standards Act. However, recruitment and appointment of Food Safety Officers is in the domain of State/UT Governments.
- (c): Strengthening of the food safety structures is an ongoing process.
- (d): The enforcement of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder is primarily the responsibility of State/UT Governments. The progress in this regard is also monitored by the Central Advisory Committee which includes the Food Safety Commissioners of States as its members.