

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3972  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2018**

**FOOD TESTING LABORATORIES**

**3972. SHRI ALOK SANJAR:**

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

- (a) the number of food testing laboratories across the country, State/UTwise including Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) whether the present number of these laboratories are as per international standards and capable to meet the demand of industries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government for modernisation of these laboratories and setting up new food testing laboratories in the country?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) at present has a network of 266 laboratories across the country. 248 of these laboratories are for primary testing out of which 172 are recognized & notified under section 43(1) of Food Safety and Standards Act (FSS Act) 2006 and 76 are State Government laboratories brought from the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) regime and working under transition provision of section 98 of the FSS Act. 18 laboratories are for appellate (referral) testing recognized & notified under section 43(2) of FSS Act.

The details of laboratories, States/UTs wise, including the State of Madhya Pradesh is at **Annexure.**

(b) & (c): FSSAI notifies only those food testing laboratories which are compliant to ISO 17025, which is an international standard for accreditation of testing laboratories. Out of above 266 laboratories, 188 laboratories across the country are of international standard. These laboratories are located in various parts and are adequate at present to meet the requirement of food testing in the country.

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(d): A Central Sector Scheme for “Strengthening of Food Testing System in the Country including Provision of Mobile Food Testing Labs” has been rolled out by the Government with an outlay of Rs.481.95 crore for implementation during the period from 2016-17 to 2018-19. Under the Scheme, it is envisaged to upgrade 42 state food laboratories (at least one in each State/UT and two in larger States) with state of the art analytical equipment. The Scheme also envisages establishment of new food laboratories in North Eastern States, subject to readiness of the State Governments. So far, a total of 29 food laboratories of 25 States/UTs have been taken up for upgradation and a grant of Rs.112.45 crore has been sanctioned. Further, under this Scheme, 31 Mobile Food Testing laboratories, called Food Safety on Wheels (FSWs) have also been delivered to 26 States/UTs so far.

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**Annexure****State/UT- wise number of food testing laboratories in the country**

Sr. No.	State/UT	Food Testing labs notified under Section 43(1) of FSS Act, 2006			Referral Laboratories notified under Section 43(2) of FSS Act, 2006	Laboratories working under transition provision of section 98 of the FSS Act
		Government		Private		
		State	Other Institutions			
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-		-	-	1
2	Andhra Pradesh	-	1	3	1	2
3	Assam	-	-	-	-	1
4	Bihar	-	-	-	-	1
5	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-	1
6	Daman & Diu	-	-	1	-	-
7	GNCT of Delhi	-	-	19	-	1
8	Goa	-	-	1	-	1
9	Gujarat	4	-	9	1	2
10	Haryana	-	-	15	-	2
11	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	1	-	1
12	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	1	2
13	Jharkhand	-	-	1	-	1
14	Karnataka	-	-	13	2	6
15	Kerala	3	7	5	2	0
16	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	8	-	3
17	Maharashtra	2	2	23	3	15
18	Manipur					1
19	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	1
20	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	1
21	Odisha	-	-	1	-	1
22	Puducherry	-	-	-	-	1
23	Punjab	-	1	2	-	3
24	Rajasthan	-	1	4	-	9
25	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	1
26	Tamil Nadu	-	-	19	2	7
27	Telangana	1	-	8	3	0
28	Tripura	-	1	0	-	1
29	Uttar Pradesh	2	3	4	2	4
30	Uttarakhand	-	-	1	-	1
31	West Bengal	-	2	4	1	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>76</b>

