

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3339
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH JULY, 2019**

NEW VIROLOGY INSTITUTES

3339. SHRI S. MUNISWAMY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has identified the places to set up/start new virology institutes and testing laboratories in the country, State/UT-wise and location wise including Karnataka;
- (b) the criteria adopted for selecting these areas; and
- (c) the funds allocated and utilized so far for the purpose?

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

- (a) Yes. However identification has been done only for setting up Viral Research and Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDLs).
- (b) Criteria adopted for selecting Regional Level VRDLs is based upon available infrastructure and epidemiological needs of the region. However, the proposals for setting up of State and Medical College Level Laboratories are given by the State Governments/Central Government Institutes.
- (c) Allocation of funds during the current financial year is Rs. 80 crore, out of which Rs. 22.50 crore, have so far been utilized for the purpose.