

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1504**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020/BHADRAPADA 29, 1942 (SAKA)**

**INCREASING PENDENCY IN FSLs**

**1504. SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:**

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

**(a) whether the Government is aware of the delay in administering justice due to increasing pendency in Forensic Science Laboratories (FSLs) during the last three years;**

**(b) if so, the number of such pending cases, State-wise;**

**(c) whether the Government has formulated any special plan to reduce/dispose of such cases; and**

**(d) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

**(a) and (b): Availability of forensic report facilitates investigation. However, disposal of a case depends on several factors such as category of the case (civil or criminal), complexity of the facts involved, nature of evidence and co-operation of the stakeholders. 'Police' and 'Public order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Details of such pending cases, state-wise, is not maintained centrally.**

**(c) and (d) In order to assist strengthening State Forensic Science Laboratories that would, inter-alia, help reduce the pendency of cases, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has taken the following initiatives:**

**(i) Projects approved for strengthening DNA analysis, Cyber-forensics and related facilities in 16 States/UT at a total cost of Rs.157.98 crore under Nirbhaya Fund.**

**(ii) Total of Rs.195.97 crore has been approved to the States for strengthening Forensic Science Laboratories in financial years 2019-2021 under the scheme for Modernization of Police Forces.**

**(iii) To ensure quality and standardization in forensic examination, the Directorate of Forensic Science Services, MHA, has issued the following guidelines:**

- (1) Quality Manuals for accreditation of laboratories as per NABL standards (ISO 17025) and Working Procedure Manuals in nine disciplines of Forensic Sciences.**
- (2) Quality Manuals and Working Procedure Manuals for Biology and DNA Division.**
- (3) Guidelines for collection, preservation & transportation of forensic evidence in sexual assault cases for Investigation Officers and medical Officers. Sexual Assault Evidence Collection kits have also been distributed to the States/UTs to ensure that evidence is collected and stored in proper manner.**
- (4) Standard list of Equipment for establishing/upgrading of Forensic Sciences Laboratories.**