

Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5277
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.04.2025

TESTING CAPACITY OF LABORATORIES

5277. SHRI ARUN BHARTI:

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

- (a) the total number of Government laboratories that have received financial support under the scheme for upgrading testing infrastructure and creating new facilities;
- (b) the specific critical areas in which new facilities have been created and the corresponding financial allocation made for each area under the scheme;
- (c) the impact of the scheme on the testing capacity and quality of services offered by laboratories such as NPL, NTH and FSSAI; and
- (d) future plans to extend this scheme to other laboratories or for further expansion including the budgetary allocation and the timeline for the next phase?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI B.L. VERMA)

(a) & (b) : Besides budgetary allocations operated by various Departments of the Government for upgrading testing infrastructure and creating new facilities, a scheme has been operationalized by Department of Consumer Affairs with support from BIS's own funds. Proposals received from 52 laboratories for financial support have been approved under this scheme for upgrading testing infrastructure and creating new facilities .The details of the approved proposals for creation of test facility in specific critical areas along with financial allocation is given at **Annexure**.

(c) & (d) : The impact of this scheme on the testing capacity and quality of services offered by laboratories can be assessed after the installation and operationalization of test facilities approved under the scheme .The scheme besides other factors, has made a positive impact on the testing capacity and quality of services offered by NTH:

S.No.	Parameter	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	(2024-25)till Feb 20 25
1	No .of samples tested	15,120	15,057	18,198	28,639	42,325
2	Revenue earned in ₹ crores	15.65	16.82	20.71	29.65	40.47

Besides the improvement in sample flow during this period with the implementation of the scheme, the quality of NTH services has also improved with the introduction of a comprehensive online solution for all testing processes, which has enhanced the traceability, accuracy, and reliability of test results and fostered greater confidence among customers.

This scheme to support Government laboratories is an ongoing scheme .Proposals are considered as and when received from organizations as per the approved guidelines .No separate budgetary head is allocated to the scheme since the scheme is being supported by Bureau of Indian Standards) 'BIS(own funds.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NUMBER NO.5277 FOR ANSWER ON 02.04.2025 REGARDING TESTING CAPACITY OF LABORATORIES.

The list of proposals approved is as under:

S.No.	Proposal for Strengthening	Approximate Cost
1	Proposal for Strengthening of Cotton fibre testing infrastructure at 21 Laboratories of Textiles Committee, Powerloom Service Centres and Cotton Corporation of India	Rs 38.72 Crores.
2	Proposal for Strengthening of the FSSAI's notified Food Testing Laboratories for Organic Food Testing including 12 FSSAI Notified State Food Laboratory and 12 FSSAI Notified Labs working under other Government Organizations	Rs 116.25 Crore.
3	Proposal for Advancement of Metrology for Reliability, Inspection and Testing (AMRIT) submitted by National Physical Laboratory	Rs 37.49 Crores spread across three years' duration.
4	Proposal for establishment of Robotic Mass Comparators with other equipment at RRSLs for calibration of E0 and E1 Class weights. The establishment is to be carried out in a phase wise manner after ensuring the required infrastructure at the RRSLs	Rs. 100 Crore for all 5 RRSLs.
5	Proposal for creation of Integrated Test Facility for Power Transmission & Distribution Sectors including Short Circuit Test Facility of Transformers at NTH Jaipur	Rs. 50.11 Crore
Total		Rs 342.57 Crore.
