

states of India, what steps have been taken to nab them and what are the details in this regard;

(b) the details of States in which these Islamic State terrorists are most active; and

(c) whether Government has any information on how these people are being funded and whether they are getting any foreign funding to activate their terror activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) Some instances of individuals from different States, including Southern States, having joined Islamic State (IS) have come to the notice of Central and State Security Agencies. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has registered 17 cases related to the presence of IS in Southern States of Telangana, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and arrested 122 accused persons. Islamic State/ Islamic State of Iraq and Levant/ Islamic State of Iraq and Syria/ Daish/ Islamic State in Khorasan Province (ISKP)/ ISIS Wilayat Khorasan/ Islamic State of Iraq and the Sham-Khorasan (ISIS-K) and all its manifestations have been notified as Terrorist Organization and included in the First Schedule to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 by the Central Government. IS is using various internet based social media platforms to propagate its ideology. Cyber space is being closely watched in this regard by the agencies concerned and action is taken as per law.

(b) Investigations by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) have revealed that the IS is most active in Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Inadequate number of forensic science laboratories

372. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Human Rights Commission and others have raised concerns over the inadequate number of Forensic Science Laboratories in the country that delays evidence gathering, leading to cases pending in courts and undertrial prisoners remaining behind bars;

- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken to overcome such situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) to (c) Disposal of 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 stakeholder. 'Police' and 'Public order' are State subjects under the Seventh schedule to the Constitution of India including strengthening of State Forensic Science Laboratories. However, in order to assist strengthening in State Forensic Science Laboratories, 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 ₹157.98 crore under Nirbhaya Fund.
- (ii) Total of ₹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:—
 - Quality Manuals for accreditation of laboratories as per NABL standards (ISO 17025) and Working Procedure Manuals in nine disciplines of Forensic Sciences.
 - Quality Manuals and Working Procedure Manuals for Biology and DNA Division.
 - Guidelines for collection, preservation & transportation of forensic evidence in sexual assault cases for Investigation Officers and medical Officers. More than 15000 Sexual Assault Evidence Collection kits have been distributed to the States/UTs to ensure that evidence is collected and stored in proper manner.
 - Standard list of Equipment for establishing/upgrading of Forensic Sciences Laboratories.