

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 867
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2024

PERFORMANCE OF NATIONAL TESTING HOUSE

867. SMT. SANGEETA YADAV

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

- (a) the details of the contribution made by National Testing House (NTH) in the formulation of standards and bringing it at par with global standards in the last five years;
- (b) the number of complaints received by NTH during the last five years particularly from Ghaziabad Test House from traders and consumers and the status thereof;
- (c) the role played by NTH in the accreditation of testing and calibration laboratories in the country; and
- (d) scientific and R&D activities undertaken by NTH at its different centres in last five years?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE, CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) : Quality standards are made by Bureau of Indian Standards(BIS) in the country. National Test House(NTH) as an organization actively contributes to and supports BIS in the standard setting process. NTH helps BIS in harmonizing Indian standards with International standards, supporting quality production of goods and services and supports testing of products requiring conformity to various Indian and other standards. In the last five years since 2018, 47 NTH Scientists have been part of BIS technical committees and have supported BIS's standard setting process in multiple scientific disciplines.

(b) : NTH is committed to address grievances arising over the course of its regular business. In the last five years, NTH has received 38 complaints from its customers, all of which have been satisfactorily resolved. In case of NTH(NR), Ghaziabad, a total of 04 complaints were received and satisfactory clarifications have been issued to the customers concerned.

(c) : NTH supports National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories(NABL) in accreditation of testing and calibration laboratories across the country. In accordance with ISO/IEC 17025:2017, a total of 18 NTH officers work as Technical Assessors for NABL, and two NTH officers are Lead Assessors in NABL assessments of Testing and Calibration laboratories. Additionally, NTH scientists are trained and empaneled by the NABL to conduct on-site assessment of the technical competence of Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) to act as testing, calibration, and proficiency testing providers.

(d) : The details of various scientific activities undertaken by NTH at its six laboratories in last five years are listed in **Annexure - I**. Its Research and Development (R&D) Activities undertaken are listed in **Annexure -II** .

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 867 FOR 09.02.2024 REGARDING SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY NTH AT ITS DIFFERENT CENTRES IN LAST FIVE YEARS:

S.No.	FY	Description
1.	2017-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State-of-the-Art testing facility for LED testing, “Gonio-photometry laboratory” started at NTH(ER), Kolkata.
2.	2018-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All six NTH Regional Laboratories operationalised Mobile Water Testing Vans in rural regions for Drinking Water Quality Testing.
3.	2021-22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NTH Satellite center at RRSL Premises, Pindra, Varanasi (U.P.), operationalised to test textiles and carpet products.
4.	2022-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State-of-the-Art laboratory for High Voltage testing facility started functioning at NTH(SR), Chennai . NTH mobile app “E-Samadhan.” launched for the benefit of consumers. Microbiological laboratory established at Guwahati for testing of Drinking Water. Domestic Appliance laboratory for testing of kitchen appliances started functioning at NTH(SR), Chennai.
5.	2023-24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drone Testing and Certification: NTH (NR) Ghaziabad is recognized under the "Drone Certification Scheme". NTH provides type certificates to drones manufactured in the country. Organic Food Testing: "State-of-the-Art" organic food testing facility has been established in NTH, Jaipur. This laboratory aids in the identification of safe and high-quality organic food products by detecting dangerous substances. Fertilizer Testing: An advanced testing facility for Fertilizer testing has been created across NTH Regions such as Kolkata, Ghaziabad, Chennai, Mumbai, Jaipur and Guwahati. This project supports “One Nation One Fertilizer” scheme. Electrical laboratory at NTH(WR), Mumbai created specialized laboratory service for testing of domestic electric appliances and their third-party quality assurance.

ANNEXURE -II

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 867 FOR 09.02.2024 REGARDING R&D ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY NTH AT ITS DIFFERENT CENTRES IN LAST FIVE YEARS:

- Lamp and Photometry laboratory evaluated performance of LED lights installed along the Indo-Bangladesh border. It also undertook performance research on runway LED lights installed by Airport Authority of India at the airports, LED lights installed and used by Indian railways and various utility bodies of State Governments.
- NTH participated in the R&D project of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India(FSSAI) by collecting different food packaging materials like plastic and paper cups and evaluated toxic effects of packaging material used on food and beverages.
- NTH conducted a study on the effect of cobalt ray irradiation on the shelf life of onions so as to increase the storage life of onions without compromising their quality.
- It has conducted research on slip factor in High Strength Friction Grip (HSFG) bolted steel structures used in road and rail bridges.