GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1824

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 7TH AUGUST, 2024/ SRAVANA 16, 1946 (SAKA)

CYBER FORENSIC LABORATORIES

1824 SHRI IRANNA KADADI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Cyber forensic-cum-training laboratories that are functioning in different States of the country;

(b) whether Government has also set up a National Cyber Forensic Science Laboratory and if so, the details thereof along with its role;

(c) whether Government proposes to increase the number of forensic laboratories in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether such laboratories have helped in improving the condition of electronic evidence in the country and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BANDI SANJAY KUMAR)

(a) As per available information, the Ministry of Home Affairs has provided

financial assistance under the 'Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and

Children (CCPWC)' Scheme, to the States / Union Territories for their

capacity building. So far, cyber forensic-cum-training laboratories have

been commissioned in 33 States / Union Territories.

(b) A National Cyber Forensic Laboratory (NCFL) has been set up at the Central Forensic Science Laboratory, Hyderabad to investigate important cases of digital fraud / cyber forensics. This laboratory acts as a Model Laboratory for other Central and State Forensic Science Laboratories in the country. Further, funds to the tune of Rs. 126.84 crore have been approved under the umbrella scheme "Safety of Women" for establishment of 06 NCFLs in Central Forensic Science Laboratories located at Delhi, Chandigarh, Kolkata, Guwahati, Bhopal, and Pune.

-2-

(c) to (e) The Government has approved a Scheme for Modernization of Forensic Capacities under which, inter-alia, assistance to States / Union Territories to develop high quality forensic science facilities with modern machinery and equipment, including cyber-forensics is available. NCFL, Hyderabad provides the necessary forensic support in cases of evidence related to cybercrime. Setting up of new facilities/Division is an ongoing process and a function of demand and feasibility in each State / Union Territory. A Scheme "National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme" has been approved by the Government on 19.06.2024 which interalia includes the component for establishment of 07 Central Forensic Science Laboratories in the country.

256