

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1147
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND JULY, 2016**

FOOD SAFETY LABS

1147. SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA:

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has promoted Public-Private-Partnership models to strengthen State food safety labs. by supporting them with sophisticated and expensive equipments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total number of Food Safety Laboratories established with the support of FSSAI;
- (d) whether such laboratories are well equipped and meet the international standards; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the total expenditure earmarked on their maintenance?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)**

(a) & (b): Currently, there is no proposal to strengthen State food testing laboratories through a Public-Private-Partnership model.

(c) to (e): Presently, 184 Food Testing Laboratories have been authorised for testing food products as per standards prescribed under the Food Safety and Standards Act and regulations thereunder. These include:

- (i) 72 State/Public food laboratories functioning under the State/ Union Territory Government;
- (ii) 14 Referral Laboratories notified by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for referral testing; and
- (iii) 98 National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) accredited private laboratories notified by FSSAI.