

**Government of India  
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports  
Department of Sports**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. \*127  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2026**

**Nutritional Supplement Testing Referral Laboratories**

**\*127. SHRI BRIJMOHAN AGRAWAL:**

**Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:**

**(a) the manner in which the accreditation of the new labs at National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU), Gandhinagar and National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Hyderabad align India's anti-doping infrastructure with World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) norms;**

**(b) the manner in which the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between M/o Youth Affairs and Sports, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and NFSU's framework is likely to ensure "Atmanirbhar" supplement testing to prevent inadvertent doping among athletes training for the 2030 major sport events like Commonwealth Games (CWG) Ahmedabad 2030 and Olympics;**

**(c) the details of the mechanisms planned to extend the said high-quality testing protocols with NFSU Gandhinagar designated as a Centre of Excellence to its campus in Raipur, Chhattisgarh to benefit the region's tribal sports talent;**

**(d) the manner in which establishing indigenous testing facilities improve the global competitiveness of Indian products for international events like the 2030 Games; and**

**(e) the manner in which the new FSSAI referral lab status is likely to help standardize nutritional supplements across States like**

**Chhattisgarh by ensuring that rural athletes have access to safe and prohibited-substance-free products?**

**ANSWER**  
**THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS**  
**[DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA]**

**(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*127 TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2026 REGARDING “NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENT TESTING REFERRAL LABORATORIES” ASKED BY SHRI BRIJMOHAN AGRAWAL, HON’BLE MEMBER OF LOK SABHA**

**(a) The accreditation of Nutritional Supplement Testing Laboratories at the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU), Gandhinagar, and the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Hyderabad, strengthens India’s anti-doping infrastructure in alignment with World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) norms. These laboratories, operating in compliance with ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standards, enable quality-assured testing of nutritional supplements for WADA-prohibited substances, thereby enhancing the credibility of India’s anti-doping ecosystem and safeguarding clean sport.**

**(b) The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) among the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS), the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), and NFSU establishes an integrated institutional framework for indigenous nutritional supplement testing. This framework supports the objective of “Atmanirbhar Bharat” by ensuring in-country, timely, and scientifically robust testing of supplements used by athletes, thereby reducing the risk of inadvertent doping in preparation for major international sporting events, including the Commonwealth Games 2030 and the Olympic Games. Domestic testing also prevents foreign exchange outflow and enhances confidence in Indian-manufactured supplements.**

**(c) At present, the Nutritional Supplement Testing Laboratory at NFSU, Gandhinagar, designated as a Centre of Excellence for Nutritional Supplement Testing for Sportspersons (CoE-NSTS), is operational and caters to testing requirements from all States, including samples received from Raipur, Chhattisgarh. The laboratory serves as a centralized facility ensuring uniform testing standards nationwide.**

**(d) The establishment of indigenous, internationally compliant testing facilities enhances the global competitiveness and credibility of Indian nutritional supplement products. Compliance with ISO/IEC 17025:2017**

**and FSSAI standards ensures internationally accepted benchmarks of accuracy, traceability, and regulatory compliance. This, in turn, promotes higher manufacturing standards, reduces certification timelines and costs, and enables Indian manufacturers to compete effectively in global markets associated with major sporting events such as the 2030 Commonwealth Games.**

**(e) The designation of the laboratory as an FSSAI Referral Laboratory provides a robust mechanism for standardizing the safety and quality of nutritional supplements across States, including Chhattisgarh. As a referral laboratory, it undertakes confirmatory testing and regulatory validation under FSSAI-notified standards. This framework ensures that athletes in rural and tribal areas have access to safe, reliable, and prohibited-substance-free supplements, thereby extending uniform scientific safeguards across regions.**

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