

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:161
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2006
OUTSOURCING PATHOLOGICAL TESTS
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether countries like UK, UAE and Bangladesh are outsourcing specialized pathological tests to India as reported in the Times of India dated January 9, 2006;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof alongwith the names of the companies conducting these tests;
- (c) the inflow of forerign exchange on this account;
- (d) whether the Government has allowed to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to enter this business; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 161 FOR 1ST MARCH, 2006.

Hospitals and Pathological Laboratories from UK, UAE and Bangaladesh are in contact with certain private sector laboratories in India to facilitate sending of pathological samples from these countries to specific labs in India for testing. This is a recent development hence there are no comprehensive studies available regarding the nature and extent of this business.

Clients from UK, UAE and some SAARC countries have approached companies like SRL Ranbaxy, Metropolis and Dr. Lal Path Labs Pvt. Ltd etc. for outsourcing samples for testing. SRL Ranabaxy conducts pathological test for institutions from UK, UAE, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka etc., while Dr. Lal Path Labs Ltd. also provides this facility.

According to some projections, the current revenues generated from this business is around US \$ 1 million per annum. There is no specific proposal pending before Government to allow FDI in this sector.