

Centre plans to introduce wider testing facility for quality assurance of toys, helmets, air conditioners and others

National Test House to venture in nano-technology through products like cosmetics, electronic consumer items and digital appliances used in homes

Nearly 25,000 samples received by National Test House annually for quality testing

At least 60% of the samples are from Govt agencies, 20-25% from private agencies and 15-20% from consumers

NTH to provide scholarship in selected fields

Posted On: 07 SEP 2021 5:06PM by PIB Delhi

“National Test House (NTH) is an example of how India as a country has moved ahead with time in research, development, technology and all of it contributing to nation building and quality in every sphere of life,” said Ms Leena Nandan, Secretary Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution while addressing a Press Conference on the significant role of NTH in country’s development on Tuesday.

The National Test House (NTH), a 109-year-old government quality assurance laboratory that provides material testing facilities for the industry, consumers and government agencies in all domains of engineering. NTH has 6 laboratories that are serving the country on quality assurance for industrial and economic growth.

The Government Test House (Today known as National Test House) was created in the year 1912 at Alipore in South Calcutta, and has contributed immensely to scientific theory, discoveries and practical product development.

It is important to mention here that the institute has witnessed dedicated works by several scientific luminaries. Dr. S. Venkateswaran and Dr. Krishnan, Scientists at NTH worked as research associates of Sir

C.V. Raman and undertook tests and discoveries in NTH laboratories on the subject “Weak Fluorescence” of glycerine which led to the discovery of “Raman Effect”. Sir C.V. Raman was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics for the discovery of “Raman Effect” in the year 1930. Sir C.V. Raman in his Nobel Prize winning speech at Swedish Academy in 1930 acknowledged the contribution of Dr. S. Venkateswaran, Scientist at GTH (Now NTH) for discovery of the “Raman Effect”.

Be it the railway lines, wagons, coaches, high rise buildings, cement concrete, iron, steel bars, transformers or small consumer items like mixer grinder, oven, toaster, batteries, wires, cables, ropes, pressure cookers, the National Test House(NTH) has been tirelessly working to uphold quality and safety standards in the country of the items produced and imported in the country. It is supporting evolution of new national standards, qualitative improvement in production lines of various industrial domains and is supporting the Aatmanirbhar Bharat programme.

The Secretary shared that in the last seventy-five (75) years, NTH had dedicated its services to various nation building projects and has carried out scientific testing and quality assessment of various Bridges, Road & Highways, Airports, Steel Plants, Refineries, Power Plant etc.

The NTH serves consumers, Industries (Heavy, Small scale), Central & State Governments, Public Sector Undertakings, Manufacturing & Construction agencies across Chemical, Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, Non Destructive Test (NDT), Rubber-Paper- Plastic & textile (RPPT) domains of testing.

A presentation was also shared with the media persons. A total of 4 videos were shared through the presentation explaining how testing is done and quality assurance is achieved in products like gas burner, switches, flexible wires and document archiving. The process of welding and certification to the welders in the Chenab River Bridge Project in Jammu and Kashmir was also approved by NTH.

The NTH is expanding its testing services for packaged drinking water, e- vehicle battery testing services, and LED lamps testing services and testing of solar panels, supporting a large number of Government of India programmes. It is supporting the MSME industry and sellers on GEM portal to provide quality, inspected material to the procuring agencies, be it a small item like a pen or a scientific item like a transformer.

Dr. P Kanjilal, Director General, NTH was connected through video conferencing. He informed that presently, nearly 25,000 samples/products are being received for quality assurance by NTH laboratories annually of which around 60% are from government agencies, around 20-25% from Private agencies 15-25% from individuals.

NTH will also provide scholarship to meritorious students of Engineering / M.Sc. In this regard, an amount of Rs. 25000 per annum per student for undertaking research in the field of Nano Technology, electrical short-circuit technology, food safety, civil engineering vibrations study of bridges and buildings will be given scholarship.

NTH plans to develop a Nano material testing laboratory which will help in assessment of the risks associated with consumer products containing nano material, especially in cosmetics, electronic consumer items and digital appliances used in homes. There is a vast market of nano materials expected to be developed and used in consumer industry especially, cell phones, electronic appliances, microwaves etc. whose quality testing work and assurance reporting NTH proposes to tap in the coming years.

Secretary, Consumer Affairs informed that a complete food testing laboratory is planned in Kolkatta. Besides, test facility for Transformer’s ability to withstand short circuit at Ghaziabad is also being planned. Simultaneously, Impulse voltage testing & transformer test facility in Chennai, test facility for air conditioners in Mumbai, test facility for toys at Mumbai and Jaipur and helmet testing for assessing strength, safety and accidental impacts are also the future plans of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Shri Vineet Mathur, Joint Secretary and Ms Nidhi Khare, Additional Secretary were present at the conference.

FUTURE PLANS

- Complete Food Testing Laboratory at Kolkata
- Test facility for Transformer's ability to withstand Short Circuit at Ghaziabad
 - Impulse Voltage Testing & Transformer test facility at Chennai
 - Test Facility for Air Conditioners at Mumbai
 - Test Facility for Toys at Mumbai and Jaipur
- Helmet Testing for assessing strength, safety and accidental impacts

NTH in Nano-Technology

In the current financial year NTH plans to develop a Nano material testing laboratory which will help in assessment of the risks associated with consumer products containing nano material, especially in cosmetics, electronic consumer items and digital appliances used in homes.

There is a vast market of nano materials expected to be developed and used in consumer industry especially, cell phones, electronic appliances, microwaves etc. whose quality testing work and assurance reporting NTH proposes to tap in the coming years.

NTH Going Forward

In the process of continuous development and to keep pace with emerging consumer and industry requirements, NTH has introduced the following test facilities:

- (1) Packaged Drinking Water and Municipal Drinking Water.
- (2) LED based Lamps & Luminaries (both safety & performance).
- (3) Safety testing of Mining Products under DGMS, Non Destructive Testing (NDT) of Buildings, Dam and Barrages.
- (4) Testing of Domestic Electronic items, Transformers, Battery, switches, cables etc.
- (5) Testing of Safety items e.g. Pressure cooker, LPG oven, Micro oven and others.
- (6) Testing of TMT Bar, Cement, Sand, Structural Steel, Paints, Rubber, Plastic, Paper, Textile, Footwear, Edible oils, Fertilizers, Coals, Building Materials, stones, Medical furniture, Valves.

(Release ID: 1752859)