

Ref. No. 30(1)/2020- DFSS/Pt.I
Govt of India, Ministry of Home Affairs,
Directorate of Forensic Science Services
Block No. 9, 8th Floor, CGO Complex
New Delhi 110003

Dated: January 18, 2022

To

The Director:

CFSL: Chandigarh, Assam, Pune
Bhopal, Kolkata and Hyderabad

Subject: Standard turnaround time for reporting in cases referred to CFSLs for forensic investigation-reg.

Sir/ Madam,

It is stated that the timely completion of investigation in criminal matters is a critical factor for enabling effectiveness of criminal justice delivery system as well as create a strong deterrence for prevention of crime and criminals. To this extent timely reporting in crime cases referred to the Central Forensic Sciences Laboratories for forensic investigation plays a crucial role in ensuring scientific investigation for conviction/ acquittal.

2. In this context, with a view to ensure uniformity in the standard turnaround time for reporting in forensic cases, the following timelines may be adhered to by all the Central Forensic Sciences Laboratories. These standard turnaround times will be monitored by the Director concerned in every Central Forensic Sciences Laboratory on a weekly basis and reported on monthly basis to the Directorate of Forensic Science Services.

Turnaround time for reporting in forensic science cases

S.No	Type of cases	Time taken to report
1	All cases with less than 10 exhibits (in 80% of cases)	3-4 days
2	All cases with 10 or more than 10 to 50 exhibits	30 days
3	All cases with more than 50 exhibits	60 days
4	Cases unusual in nature involving complicated technical issues	To be decided on case-to-case basis

Note: (i) Director, CFSL of the laboratory concerned, shall certify a case to be unusual in nature involving complicated technical issues and indicate the time required to report in the case.

(ii) All sexual assault cases / POCSO cases which come in sl no. 3 & 4 shall be reported in maximum of one month.

3. These standards shall come into force w.e.f **20th January 2022**. Cases received prior to 31st January 2022 shall be disposed in a mission mode in terms of the instructions issued vide DFSS order No 25(12)/2021 Dated 31.12.2021.

4. All Directors may also ensure compliance with the above standards without any relaxation. This order may also bring to the notice of all experts/Reporting Officers working in the laboratory.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. S K Jain)

Director-cum-Chief Forensic Scientist

Copy for information to:

1. PPS to JS (PM), MHA, GoI, New Delhi
2. Sh. Anil Subramaniam, Director (WS),MHA, N. Delhi

(Dr. S K Jain)

Director-cum-Chief Forensic Scientist