# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE

# RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 925 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2025

## ENSURING OPTIMAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN POSTMORTEM FACILITIES

### 925 DR. AJEET MADHAVRAO GOPCHADE:

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

- (a) the steps the Central Government has taken in partnership with State Governments to tackle manipulation issues concerning autopsy reports of human remains as on date;
- (b) the actions the Central Government has implemented along side State Governments to prevent morgue workers from conducting postmortems without proper protective equipment, which puts them at risk of severe infections such as tuberculosis and HIV; and
- (c) the initiatives introduced to ensure optimal infrastructure in postmortem facilities?

# ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PRTAPRAO JADHAV)

- (a): To ensure transparency and effectiveness, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has integrated Medico Legal Examination & Post-mortem Reports System (MedLEaPR) Software for Post-mortem reporting with the support of National Informatics Cenre (NIC) along with Ministry of Home Affairs. The upgraded software has been shared with all States/Union Territories, Central Government Hospitals & Institutes for implementation. NIC has also demonstrated the functionalities and uses of the software through video conferencing to all personnel concerned.
- **(b) and (c):** Directorate General of Health Services(DteGHS) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has issued guidelines from time to time for handling of dead bodies of infectious disease in morgues and during autopsy procedures. In Government Institutions, morgue workers are provided personal protective equipment such as gloves, masks, goggles and protective gowns. Further, new equipment are procured at regular intervals to ensure optimal infrastructure in post-mortem facilities. The Minimum standards for mortuary and post-mortem formulated by DteGHS, MoHFW under the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act,2010 is technically approved and is under submission for approval form the National Council for Clinical Establishments (NCCE). Once approved, this will be gazetted and officially released for wider adoption across the nation.

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