

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 290
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13TH MARCH, 2020
DEATHS DUE TO ILLEGIBLE PRESCRIPTIONS**

***290. DR. MUNJPARA MAHENDRABHAI KALUBHAI:**

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

(a) whether the Government maintains records of any death or disability caused as a result of medication errors occurred on the part of pharmacies due to misreading of the prescription written by doctors in illegible handwriting; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise along with the national data/figures thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

(a) & (b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 290 FOR 13TH MARCH, 2020**

(a) & (b) Health is a State subject and no such data is maintained centrally. However, Clause 1.5 of Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 prescribes that every physician should prescribe drugs with generic names legibly and preferably in capital letters and he/she shall ensure that there is a rational prescription and use of drug. Further, Medical Council of India (MCI) has issued Circular dated 21.04.2017 vide which all the Registered Medical Practitioners have been directed to comply with the aforesaid provisions. The MCI or the appropriate State Medical Councils have been empowered to take disciplinary action against a doctor for violation of the provision of the aforesaid Regulations. As and when complaints are received against the violation of code of ethics for doctors, such complaints are referred by MCI to the concerned State Medical Councils where the doctors/medical practitioners are registered.
