

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED Q. NO 2053
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30th JULY, 2021**

DEATH CERTIFICATE OF COVID DEATHS

2053 SHRI V.K. SREEKANDAN

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

- a) whether the Government has issued any guidelines to the hospitals to issue death certificates stating the exact cause of death including death due to COVID-19, if so, the details thereof;
- b) whether as per the new guidelines fatalities due to related complications shall also be certified as COVID- 19 deaths, if so, the details thereof;
- c) whether the Government proposes to set up a grievance redressal process for the families of COVID-19 patients in case of errors in death certificates, if so, the details thereof;
- d) whether the Government proposes to include the above, in the guidelines; and
- e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(DR BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (e) Health is a state subject, detailed guidelines for reporting of deaths have been issued by Union Health Ministry to all States/UTs. Accordingly, all States/UTs report cases and deaths to Union Health Ministry on a regular basis.

ICMR on 10th May 2020 issued 'Guidance for appropriate recording of COVID-19 related deaths in India'

(Available at:

https://www.icmr.gov.in/pdf/covid/techdoc/Guidance_appropriate_recording_of_related_deaths_India.pdf). This was widely disseminated among states/UTs.

MoHFW vide letter dated 9th October 2020 has conveyed to States/UTs, WHO and ICMR guidelines on correct recording of COVID-19 related deaths in accordance with globally accepted ICD-10 classification. In addition, the issue of correct and timely reporting of deaths has also been stressed to all States/UTs through multiple video conferences including VCs held on 12th October, 2020; 05th December 2020; 22nd June 2021.

166 Central teams deployed to 33 states/UTs have also reiterated the need for correct recording of deaths.

The data of deaths are obtained from States/UTs. It has been noted that some of states based on reconciliation of mortality data also revise the reported COVID-19 deaths sometimes. All states have also been advised that while reconciling the data, the details of deaths shall be indicated date wise & district wise to get a correct picture of the pandemic.