

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3598  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13-03-2026**

**STATUS OF DEATH CERTIFICATION**

**3598: SHRI JAI PRAKASH:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that only 22.5 per cent of deaths in the country are medically certified;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has assessed the implications of the gap in medical certification of deaths for public health and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to make medical certification of every death compulsory in the country in future; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (e) The Office of the Registrar General of India publishes an annual national report titled "Report on Medical Certification of Cause of Death" based on the data on medically certified cause of death received from the Office of Chief Registrars of Births and Deaths (CRBDs) of States/Union Territories as per the National list of Causes of Death based on Revised International Classification of Diseases (ICD) 10. As per the Report on Medical Certification of Cause of Death, 2023, the medically certified deaths as a percentage of total registered deaths is 22.0 per cent.

The Registration of Births and Deaths (RBD) Act 1969 (as amended in 2023) strengthens the legal provisions relating to medical certification of cause of death. As per the legal provisions under sections 10(2) and 10(3) of the Act, every medical institution, irrespective of ownership, is required to issue a certificate of the cause of death free of charge for deaths occurring in the institution, signed by the medical practitioner who attended the deceased during the recent illness. Further, where death occurs outside a medical institution but the deceased had been attended by a medical practitioner during the recent illness, the practitioner is required to issue the certificate of cause of death free of charge to the informant.

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