

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2218
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31ST JULY, 2026**

TAMPERING OF AUTOPSY

2218. SHRI PARSHOTTAMBHAI RUPALA:

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

(a) whether the Union Government, in coordination with State Governments, has taken measures to prevent manipulation or tampering of autopsy reports, including standardized postmortem protocols and digital records in the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether mandatory use of certified Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) has been enforced by the Government for doctors and morgue staff during postmortems to prevent occupational exposure to infections such as tuberculosis, HIV and hepatitis, along with regular health screening and training, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government has initiated programmes to upgrade postmortem infrastructure across the country, including modern mortuaries, ventilation and bio-safety systems, advanced forensic equipment and adequate staffing, if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

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

(a) to (c): '*Health*' being a State subject, the primary responsibility to address the issue of manipulation or tampering of autopsy reports and to provide standardized postmortem protocols along with digital records lies with the respective States/UTs.

Nonetheless, the Government of India enacted the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010 (CE Act) and notified the Clinical Establishments (Central Government) Rules, 2012 amended in 2018 and 2020 (CE Rules) to provide for registration and regulation of Government (except those of Armed Forces) as well as private clinical establishments belonging to recognized systems of medicine. As per CE Act, the clinical establishments are required to fulfill the conditions of minimum standards for each type of service provided. Further, every clinical establishment having Mortuary shall comply with the minimum standards for Mortuary. The minimum standards for Mortuary has been approved by National Council for Clinical Establishments. The CE Act is adopted by 19 States/UTs (12 States, viz., Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh,

Mizoram, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Telangana, Uttarakhand & Uttar Pradesh and 7 UTs, viz., Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Lakshadweep & Puducherry).

‘Health’ being a State subject, the States / UTs which have adopted the CE Act are primarily responsible for enforcing/implementing the provisions of the CE Act in the respective States/UTs. The Act has empowered a registering authority at the district level under the chairmanship of the District Collector / District Magistrate to take actions including imposing penalties in respect of violation of its provisions. The Act also provides for cancellation of registration, if the provisions of the Act are not complied with. The clinical establishments in the States/UTs, which have not adopted and implemented the CE Act, are registered and regulated by the respective State Acts.
