

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-427**  
**ANSWERED ON-06.02.2018**

**Authorisation to sign pathology report**

427 . Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad

Smt. Chhaya Verma

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that only M.D. Pathologist has been authorised to sign the Pathology report;
- (b) whether the experts have apprehended that due to this compulsion, the digital signature would be used on the report of medical test labs as M.D. Pathologists are not available in sufficient number in the small cities and towns, which might affect the results; and
- (c) if so, the steps being taken by the Ministry to tackle this problem?

**ANSWER**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (c) As per clause (c) of sub-section (2) of Section 15 of IMC Act, 1956, no person other than a doctor having qualification recognized by MCI and registered with MCI/State Medical Council(s) is allowed to practice modern system of Medicine or sign or authenticate a medical or fitness certificate or any other certificate required by any law to be signed. Further, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 12.12.2017 in the Special Leave to Appeal (Civil) No. 28529/2010 in the matter of North Gujarat Unit of Association of Self Employed Owners (Paramedical) of Private Pathology Laboratories of Gujarat Vs. North Gujarat Pathologists Association & Ors held that the stand of the Medical Council of India that Laboratory Report can be counter signed only by a registered medical practitioner with a post graduate qualification in pathology is correct".