

**MOST URGENT**

F. No. H-11021/07/2021-H-I  
Government of India  
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare  
(Hospital-I Section)

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated 15.11.2021

**Office Memorandum**

**Subject: Conduct of Post-mortem in Hospitals after sunset -reg.**

With reference to the above mentioned subject, multiple references have been received in the ministry from various sources.

2. The issue has been examined by a technical committee in the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India. It has been ascertained that some institutes are already performing night- time post-mortem. In view of the rapid advancement and improvement in technology, especially availability of required lighting and infrastructure for post-mortem, performing night time post-mortem in hospitals is feasible.

3. Therefore, it has been decided that post- mortem after sunset can be conducted at hospitals which have the infrastructure for conducting such post-mortem on a regular basis. The fitness and adequacy of infrastructure etc. shall be assessed by the Hospital In-charge to ensure that there is no dilution of evidentiary value.

4. However, cases under categories such as homicide, suicide, rape, decomposed bodies, suspected foul play should not be subjected for post-mortem during night time unless there is a law and order situation.

5. Post-mortem for organ donation should be taken up on priority and be conducted even after sunset, if adequate infrastructure is available.

6. It is also to be ensured that video recording of post-mortem shall be done for all night time post-mortem, to rule out any suspicion and *preserved* for future reference for legal purposes.

7. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

  
(Ganesh Kumar)  
15/11/2021

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