Society & Social Justice · GS - II

Incomplete death registration undermines evidence-based governance and public health planning in India. Examine the causes of gaps in death registration and suggest measures to improve the Civil Registration System.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 04/11/2026	GS - II	Society & Social Justice

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Civil Registration System, Registration of Births and Deaths Act, rural-urban disparities, gender gaps, administrative capacity, public awareness, digital registration, institutional coordination, data-driven policymaking.

Model Answer

Introduction

Death registration is essential for measuring mortality, identifying demographic trends and planning public services. Gaps in registration weaken the reliability of official statistics and can conceal inequalities in health outcomes.

Causes of Incomplete Registration

In rural and remote areas, limited access to registration facilities, low awareness and administrative delays can discourage timely reporting. Deaths occurring at home may be particularly difficult to record. Gender disparities may arise from social inequalities and inadequate awareness of legal procedures.

Implications for Governance

Incomplete records distort mortality estimates and weaken public health surveillance. They can affect the assessment of disease burdens, healthcare requirements and the effectiveness of government interventions. Missing data also limit the ability to identify vulnerable populations and regional disparities.

Way Forward

Authorities should strengthen local registration infrastructure, train registration officials and improve coordination between hospitals, local bodies and civil registration offices. Digital registration, mobile facilities and public awareness campaigns can improve coverage. District-level monitoring should identify unregistered deaths and address gender and rural-urban gaps while protecting personal data.

Conclusion

A comprehensive and inclusive Civil Registration System is essential for reliable statistics and accountable governance. Improving death registration will strengthen public health planning and evidence-based policymaking.

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