

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 265  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2023**

**ERADICATION OF SICKLE CELL ANAEMIA**

**265 SHRI MOHAMMED NADIMUL HAQUE:**

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

- (a) the details of the target set and achieved for eradication of Sickle Cell Anaemia (SCA) in the year 2022-23;
- (b) the details of the target set for the year 2025-26 in tribal areas, target achieved till date and the total budgetary allocation for the same;
- (c) total number of tribal districts that have established a roadmap for screening of SCA, State-wise;
- (d) whether Government plans to introduce confidential counselling and treatment of SCA given the stigma suffered by patients, especially women, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE  
(PROF. S. P. SINGH BAGHEL)**

(a) to (e): Sickle cell disease is a genetic blood disease which affects the whole life of patient. It is more common in the tribal population of India, but occurs in non-tribals too. It not only causes anaemia but also pain crisis, reduced growth and affects many organs like lungs, heart, kidney, eyes, bones and the brain.

To eliminate sickle cell disease, Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission has been launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister from Madhya Pradesh on 1st July, 2023. The objectives of the Mission are provision of affordable, accessible and quality care to all Sickle Cell Diseased patients, reduction in the prevalence of Sickle Cell Disease through awareness creation, targeted screening of 7 crore people till year 2025-26 in the age group of 0-40 years in affected 278 districts of tribal areas and counselling through collaborative efforts of central

ministries and State governments. The target for screening by States was 1 crore for the year 2022-23 and now target set for screening of sickle cell anaemia for financial year 2025-26 is 2 crore population in 278 districts of 17 high prevalence States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched a National Sickle cell portal i.e. <https://sickle.nhm.gov.in> where achievement of screening can be accessed.

In respect of the budget for the said programme, the mission has been initiated as a part of overall NHM budget envelope. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare provides technical and financial support to the States/UTs to strengthen the public healthcare system, based on the proposals received in the form of Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) under National Health Mission. Government of India provides approval for the proposals in the form of Record of Proceedings (RoPs) as per norms & available resources.

Through Ministry of Tribal Affairs, awareness and counseling material have been developed. IEC and media activities are adopted for propagation of awareness of disease, screening and management. State Governments have to play an important role in implementation of mission activities.

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