

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 789  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2024**

**NATIONAL SICKLE CELL ANAEMIA ELIMINATION PROGRAMME**

**789. SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL:**

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

(a) whether the Government has suitably addressed the health challenges posed by sickle cell disease, particularly among tribal population of the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the number of tribals who have been screened for sickle cell anaemia out of expected screening target of 8 crore under forty years of age in the next three years under the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Programme; and

(c) the details of the efforts being made by the Government for successfully attaining the aforementioned target of screening of about 8 crore tribals?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY  
WELFARE  
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (c): 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. Till 30.06.2024, a total of 3,55,50,230 population in the 17 identified States have been screened and uploaded on the portal by States.

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.

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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