

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 711  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2024**

**SICKLE CELL ANAEMIA DISEASE**

**711. SHRI V K SREEKANDAN:**

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

(a) whether sickle cell anaemia disease cases have been reported in tribal hamlets of the country including Attapadi in Palakkad district and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether many people have lost their lives in Attapadi due to the said disease in June, 2024 itself, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government is considering to deploy a team of medical experts in Attapadi to contain the said deadly disease and if so, the details thereof?

**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. Sickle cell anaemia disease is prevalent in the Attapadi valley amongst three tribal communities i.e. Irula, Muduga and the Kurumba.

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.

Health is a State subject, hence, the data regarding births and deaths is maintained by State government for adequate action in various programs of health.

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