

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1162
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2005
SICKLECELL DISEASE
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether the Government has included the sicklecell disease in the National Health Programme;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c): Sickle Cell Disease is a genetic disorder due to defective haemoglobin structure and is generally prevalent in the tribal areas of the country. This being a hereditary disease, prevention is the only remedy available which includes creating awareness in the affected region. The Indian Council of Medical Research has also taken several intervention measures in the affected areas as a part of their research projects. Under National Rural Health Mission the Government has made special provisions for better health care to the general population including the tribal population in the underserved states for prevention and control of Communicable and Non-communicable diseases including locally endemic diseases, which would cover Sickle Cell Disease.