

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1943

ANSWERED ON:31.07.2015

Sickle Cell Anaemia

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

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

- (a) whether cases of sickle cell anaemia have been reported from various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year, State/ UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to launch the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Control Programme in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which the said programme is likely to be launched; and
- (e) the details of the assistance likely to be provided to the States/UTs under the said programme?

Answer

(a) & (b): Yes. As per information from Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Sickle Cell Disease has been reported over the years from Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Tribes in Nilgiri Hill areas, Kerala, Tea Garden Workers from North East and West Bengal.

The State / UT wise exact number of patients suffering from Sickle Cell Anaemia is not monitored and maintained centrally.

(c) to (e): Public Health being a State subject, the primary responsibility to provide health care services to the citizens lies with State/UT Governments. However, financial and technical support is provided to States/UTs under National Health Mission (NHM) to strengthen their healthcare system, including support for addressing the problems of blood disorders (Thalassemia, Haemophilia, Sickle Cell Anaemia etc.) based on the proposals submitted by the State/UT Governments in their Programme Implementation Plans. Rashtriya Bal SwasthyaKaryakram (RBSK) under NHM provides facilities for early detection and treatment of Sickle Cell Anaemia among children, as this disease is included among 30 selected health conditions based on the high prevalence of disease in certain geographical pockets of some States/UTs. For ensuring availability of testing and specialized support facilities, States and UTs may incorporate them as part of this initiative.