

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2501
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2024**

NATIONAL SICKLE CELL ANAEMIA ELIMINATION MISSION

2501. SHRI MOHAMMED NADIMUL HAQUE:

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

- (a) the gender disaggregated data regarding the percentage of the population screened for Sickle Cell Anaemia (SCA) under the Mission, along with the number of confirmed SCA cases detected from the screening program;
- (b) the steps Government is taking to ensure the effectiveness of early diagnosis and management strategies for Sickle Cell Disease (SCD), particularly in the high-prevalence regions and among tribal communities; and
- (c) the measures taken to address the social stigma associated with SCD and to promote community awareness, inclusivity, and access to quality healthcare for affected individuals?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (c): To eliminate sickle cell disease (SCD), National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission (NSCAEM) 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 SCD through awareness creation, targeted screening of 7 crore people till year 2025-26 in the age group of 0-40 years in affected districts of tribal areas and counselling through collaborative efforts of central ministries and State governments. Details of individuals screened and confirmed as diseased, gender-wise, are attached at **Annexure**.

Under NSCAEM, screenings are conducted at all health facilities from District Hospitals upto Ayushman Arogya Mandir (AAM) level. Patients living with SCD are provided with the following services/ facilities for improving their quality of life through AAM- Sub Health Centres (SHC) and AAM- Primary Health Centres (PHCs):

- Follow-up of diseased individuals at frequent intervals.
- Counseling regarding lifestyle management, pre-marriage and pre-natal decisions.
- Nutritional supplementation support through distribution of folic acid tablets.

- Conducting yoga and wellness sessions.
- Management of crisis symptoms and referral to higher facilities.

Hydroxyurea has been included in National Health Mission (NHM) Essential Drugs List at Sub-Health Centres, Primary Health Centres (PHC)/ Urban PHC, Community Health Centres (CHC) and District Hospitals to address the issue of access to medicine. Under NHM, financial support is provided for the procurement of Hydroxyurea, to reduce the out-of-pocket expenditure borne by sickle cell anaemia patients.

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. Awareness activities are also provided in each sickle cell screening camp. State Governments play an important role in implementation of mission activities including awareness drive.

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question no. 2501 for answer on 17.12.2024

Annexure

Details of individuals screened and confirmed as diseased, gender-wise:

State Name	Male		Female		Transgenders/others	
	Screened	Diseased	Screened	Diseased	Screened	Diseased
Andhra pradesh	405381	763	531137	946	577	1
Assam	181931	49	665805	209	282	-
Bihar	6020	1	7182	-	2	-
Chhattisgarh	5844786	11432	8658145	14016	2532	3
Gujarat	1572771	2491	1985513	3259	182	1
Jharkhand	858976	784	1369219	1385	582	-
Karnataka	113470	221	141929	342	29	-
Kerala	39931	500	66944	667	16	-
Madhya pradesh	3781277	10826	4776100	14724	1306	2
Maharashtra	1835079	8207	3231572	11173	755	2
Odisha	1798871	34092	3047857	55904	672	3
Rajasthan	1681365	1381	1945766	1566	1819	1
Tamil nadu	83846	117	177162	380	33	-
Telangana	215206	383	255974	473	58	1
Uttar pradesh	316540	10	335747	9	117	-
Uttarakhand	72503	1	93466	1	28	-
West bengal	726331	1847	1193998	3581	232	1
Total	1,95,34,284	73,105	2,84,83,516	1,08,635	9,222	15