

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2661  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2025**

**SICKLE CELL ANAEMIA IN ANDHRA PRADESH**

**2661. SHRI GOLLA BABURAO:**

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

- (a) the reasons that Andhra Pradesh falls in the category of higher prevalence States of Sickle Cell Anaemia;
- (b) whether Government has taken up various programmes under the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission (NSCEM);
- (c) if so, highlights of the above Mission, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) the number of people targeted and achieved in screening so far for sickle cell anaemia in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise; and
- (e) the number of districts affected with the Sickle Cell Anaemia in the State?

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

(a) to (e): Based on population genetics studies, it has been found that Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) has a higher prevalence in 17 States of the country including Andhra Pradesh having significant tribal population.

To eliminate sickle cell disease, National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission (NSCAEM) has been launched by Government of India 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 17 tribal states and counselling through collaborative efforts of central ministries and State governments. As on 31.07.2025, a total of 6,07,30,111 population in the 17 identified tribal dominated States including Andhra Pradesh, have been screened, out of which 2,16,721 have been confirmed as diseased.

Under NSCAEM, screenings are conducted at all health facilities including in Andhra Pradesh 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 SHCs, PHCs/ Urban PHCs, 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 (MoTA), awareness and counseling material have been developed and disseminated to the States & UTs.

As on 31.07.2025, a total of 13,40,692 population in Andhra Pradesh have been screened, out of which 2,187 have been confirmed as diseased. District-wise details of screenings conducted and identified as diseased and carriers through screening in Andhra Pradesh is attached as Annexure.

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Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (e) of Rajya Sabha unstarred question no. 2661 for answer on 12.08.2025

**Annexure**

District-wise details of total screenings conducted, confirmed as diseased and carriers in Andhra Pradesh, as on 31.07.2025

S.No.	District Name	Total Screened	Total No. of Diseased	Total Carrier
1.	Alluri Sitharama Raju	432656	1537	12984
2.	Parvathipuram Manyam	142722	290	4773
3.	Srikakulam	43422	189	858
4.	Eluru	88696	35	905
5.	Visakhapatnam	1868	32	0
6.	Anakapalli	10369	23	151
7.	Palnadu	65896	15	20
8.	Prakasam	47347	13	204
9.	NTR	38245	12	60
10.	Nandyal	41264	11	85
11.	East Godavari	8598	10	6
12.	Vizianagaram	25671	8	266
13.	Kakinada	10807	4	39
14.	Annamayya	23239	3	1
15.	Anantapur	22488	3	10
16.	Sri Sathya Sai	11809	2	4
17.	SPSR Nellore	120271	0	1
18.	Tirupati	94039	0	0
19.	Bapatla	27491	0	0
20.	Chittoor	17820	0	3
21.	Krishna	17513	0	4
22.	Guntur	16632	0	2
23.	Kurnool	10373	0	5
24.	Y.S.R.	10058	0	0
25.	Konaseema	6704	0	1
26.	West Godavari	4694	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>13,40,692</b>	<b>2,187</b>	<b>20,382</b>

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