

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4813
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28TH MARCH 2025**

DRUG DEVELOPMENT FOR RARE DISEASES

†4813. SMT. SANJNA JATAV:

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

(a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the fact that the country ranks lowest in terms of awareness, diagnosis and drug development for rare diseases in the world and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the rank of the country in the said terms given the fact that 8-10 crore Indians are suffering from one or the other rare disease?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) and (b) The question lacks clarity on the basis of which the countries are ranked on the issues of rare diseases and the source of data regarding number of Indians suffering from Rare Diseases. However, to mitigate the challenges posed by rare diseases in India, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has framed National Policy for Rare Diseases (NPRD), 2021. The policy adequately covers all aspects concerning rare diseases viz. financial assistance for treatment, awareness, diagnosis, research & development etc. The details of NPRD and other related circulars are available at Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) website viz. <https://mohfw.gov.in>.