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Title: Need to take concrete steps to eradicate Sickle Cell disease from the country- Laid.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA (CHANDRAPUR): Sickle cell disease is prevalent in most parts of the country amongst tribal population groups and Scheduled Castes. This disease is a life threatening genetic blood disorder, having no medicine for its permanent cure. The disease carries the risk of debilitating fatigue, blindness, infections, organ damage, stroke and a shortened life. The ICMR has made survey on sickle cell hundreds of times so far but no concrete steps have been taken by the Government towards control and cure of the sickle cell disease. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has reportedly taken up a pilot study in regard to the sickle cell disease in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Orissa and Tamil Nadu. The Government should take sincere and positive steps in this regard and this sickle cell disease should be included in the National Health Policy.