

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

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**2023**

## 1. PM launches National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission in Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh: PIB

| <b>Why is it in news?</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi launched the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission in Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh and distributed sickle cell genetic status cards to the beneficiaries                       |        |         |                |                       |             |                    |            |                      |             |                     |
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| <b>UPSC SYLLABUS<br/>RELEVANCE for prelims<br/>and Mains</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Prelims: Current events of National and International Importance.<br><br>Mains: General Studies II: Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources. |        |         |                |                       |             |                    |            |                      |             |                     |
| <b>Important concepts</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Sickle Cell Anaemia<br>National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission                                                                                                                                                     |        |         |                |                       |             |                    |            |                      |             |                     |
| <p align="center"><b>Prelims PYQ Exercise-Find answer:</b></p> <p>Match List-I (Disease) with List-II (Types of disease) and select the correct answer using the codes given below:</p> <p>[2000]</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th align="left">List-I</th><th align="left">List-II</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A. Haemophilia</td><td>1. Deficiency disease</td></tr> <tr> <td>B. Diabetes</td><td>2. Genetic disease</td></tr> <tr> <td>C. Rickets</td><td>3. Hormonal disorder</td></tr> <tr> <td>D. Ringworm</td><td>4. Fungal infection</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(a) A – 2; B – 3; C – 4; D – 1</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | List-I | List-II | A. Haemophilia | 1. Deficiency disease | B. Diabetes | 2. Genetic disease | C. Rickets | 3. Hormonal disorder | D. Ringworm | 4. Fungal infection |
| List-I                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | List-II                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |        |         |                |                       |             |                    |            |                      |             |                     |
| A. Haemophilia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1. Deficiency disease                                                                                                                                                                                                       |        |         |                |                       |             |                    |            |                      |             |                     |
| B. Diabetes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 2. Genetic disease                                                                                                                                                                                                          |        |         |                |                       |             |                    |            |                      |             |                     |
| C. Rickets                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 3. Hormonal disorder                                                                                                                                                                                                        |        |         |                |                       |             |                    |            |                      |             |                     |
| D. Ringworm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 4. Fungal infection                                                                                                                                                                                                         |        |         |                |                       |             |                    |            |                      |             |                     |

(b) A – 2; B – 3; C – 1; D – 4

(c) A – 3; B – 2; C – 1; D – 4

(d) A – 3; B – 2; C – 4; D – 1

### Today's prelims practice question:

**Q.**

Which of the following statements is/are correct about the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission?

- 1) It was launched by the Prime Minister of India from Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh in July 2023.
- 2) It aims to eradicate sickle cell anaemia by 2047 through various interventions.
- 3) Sickle cell anaemia is a genetic blood disorder that affects millions of people in India, especially the tribal communities

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only   b) 2 and 3 only   c) 1 and 2 only   d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

- The mission was launched by the Prime Minister of India from Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh in July 2023.
- The mission aims to eradicate sickle cell anaemia by 2047 through various interventions such as awareness creation, universal screening, counselling and treatment.
- Sickle cell anaemia is a genetic blood disorder that affects millions of people in India, especially the tribal communities. It causes anemia, pain crises, reduced growth and organ damage

**Mains PYQ exercise:**

Appropriate local community-level healthcare intervention is a prerequisite to achieve “Health for All” in India. Explain (2018)

**Today's mains practice question:**

Discuss the significance and challenges of the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission in India. How can it be made more effective and inclusive? (15 marks)

## DETAILED EXPLANATION OF IMPORTANT CONCEPTS

### Sickle Cell Anaemia:

- Sickle cell anemia is a genetic disease of the red blood cells (RBCs) that affects the shape and function of hemoglobin, the protein that carries oxygen in the blood.
- Normally, RBCs are round and flexible, but in sickle cell anemia, some RBCs are shaped like sickles or crescent moons. These sickle cells are rigid, sticky and prone to getting trapped in small blood vessels, blocking blood flow and causing pain and tissue damage.
- Sickle cell anemia is one of a group of inherited disorders known as sickle cell disease (SCD).
- Sickle cell anemia is caused by a change in the gene that tells the body to make hemoglobin.
- The normal hemoglobin has two alpha chains and two beta chains. The change in the gene affects the beta chains and produces a variant type of hemoglobin called hemoglobin S (HbS).
- HbS is sensitive to low oxygen levels and tends to clump together and form long fibers that distort the shape of the RBCs into sickles.
- Sickle cell anemia is an autosomal recessive condition, which means that you need two copies of the gene with the change to have the disease. If you have only one copy of the gene, you are said to have sickle cell trait.
- Symptoms of sickle cell anemia include anemia, pain crises, swelling of hands and feet, frequent infections, delayed growth or puberty, and vision problems.
- Diagnosis is done by a blood test that checks for the presence of hemoglobin S or other abnormal hemoglobins.
- Treatment includes pain medications, hydroxyurea, blood transfusions, bone marrow transplant, and gene therapy. There is no cure for most people with sickle cell anemia.

## National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission

- The National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission is a mission to improve care of all Sickle Cell Disease patients and to lower the prevalence of the disease through multi-faced coordinated approach towards screening and awareness strategies. The mission was announced in the union budget of FY 2023-24 and aims to eliminate sickle cell anemia by 2047. The mission entails focus on awareness creation, universal screening of people in the 0-40 years age group in affected tribal areas and counselling.
- **The mission has three objectives:** provision of affordable and accessible care to all SCD patients, ensuring quality of care for SCD patients, and reducing the prevalence of SCD.
- **The mission has three pillars:** health promotion, prevention, and management.
- The mission covers 20 districts in Odisha, which has a high prevalence of SCD among the tribal population. The mission also involves inter-sectoral convergence with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and linkages with social security schemes and benefit packages

## 2. PM addresses 17th Indian Cooperative Congress in New Delhi: PIB

|                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Why is it in news?                                            | The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi addressed the 17th Indian Cooperative Congress at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi on the occasion of International Day of Cooperatives                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| UPSC SYLLABUS RELEVANCE for prelims and Mains                 | <p>Prelims: Current events of National and International Importance.</p> <p>Mains: General Studies Paper II: Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices; Public Distribution System objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping; issues of buffer stocks and food security; Technology missions; economics of animal-rearing</p> |
| Important concepts                                            | <p>Indian Cooperative Congress</p> <p>International Day of Cooperatives</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <p><b>Prelims PYQ Exercise-Find answer:</b></p> <p>[1999]</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

The farmers are provided credit from a number of sources for their short and long term needs. The main sources of credit to the farmers include:

- (a) the Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies, commercial banks, RRBs and private money lenders
- (b) the NABARD, RBI, commercial banks and private money lenders
- (c) the District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCB), the lead banks, IRDP and JRY
- (d) the Large Scale Multi-purpose Adivasis Programme, DCCB, IFFCO and commercial bank

### Today's prelims practice question:

**Q.** Consider the following statements:

- 1. The 17th Indian Cooperative Congress was held in New Delhi on the occasion of International Day of Cooperatives in 2023.
- 2. The main theme of the event was 'Amrit Kaal: Prosperity through Cooperation for a Vibrant India'.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only   b) 2 only   c) Both 1 and 2   d) None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

- 17th Indian Cooperative Congress was organised on 1-2 July, 2023 in New Delhi.
- The main theme of the event was 'Amrit Kaal: Prosperity through Cooperation for a Vibrant India'.
- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, addressed the congress on 1st July and launched E-Portals of e-Commerce website for Cooperative Marketing, and Cooperative Extension and Advisory Services Portal. He also highlighted the role of the cooperative sector in enhancing the potential of the country's villages and farmers in Amritkaal.

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| <b>Mains PYQ exercise:</b>              | The concept of cooperative federalism has been increasingly emphasized in recent years. Highlight the drawbacks in the existing structure and the extent to which cooperative federalism would answer the shortcomings. |
| <b>Today's mains practice question:</b> | Discuss the significance and challenges of the cooperative sector in India. How can the cooperative movement contribute to the goal of a vibrant and self-reliant India in Amritkaal? (250 words)                       |

## DETAILED EXPLANATION OF IMPORTANT CONCEPTS

### Indian Cooperative Congress:

- Indian Cooperative Congress is a biennial event organised by the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) to discuss various trends in cooperative movement, showcase best practices being adopted, deliberate challenges being faced and chalk out future policy direction for growth of India's cooperative movement
- The 17th Indian Cooperative Congress was organised by NCUI on 1-2 July, 2023 in New Delhi to discuss the trends, challenges and future of the cooperative movement in India.
- The theme of the event was 'Amrit Kaal: Prosperity through Cooperation for a Vibrant India' and it was inaugurated by PM Modi who highlighted the role of cooperatives in enhancing the potential of villages and farmers.

### International Day of Cooperatives:

- International Day of Cooperatives is celebrated on the first Saturday of July by the UN and the ICA to promote cooperatives globally.
- The theme for 2023 is "Cooperatives Build a Better World", which reflects the unique contribution of cooperatives to economic, social, environmental, and peace objectives.
- Cooperatives are associations and businesses that enable people to improve their lives while contributing to their community and nation. They are based on cooperative and ethical values.
- There are more than 3 million cooperatives in the world, operating in various sectors of the economy. They are more resilient to crises, keep financial capital within local

communities, build ethical value chains, and fight against environmental degradation and climate change.

### 3. Sixth GST Day with vision GST@6 सरलीकृत कर, समग्र विकास celebrated at New Delhi: PIB

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| Why is it in news?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | The 6th Goods and Services Tax (GST) Day was celebrated here today with the vision GST@6 सरलीकृत कर, समग्र विकास with Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman presiding over as the Chief Guest and Union Minister of State for Finance Shri Pankaj Chaudhary as the Guest of Honour. |
| UPSC SYLLABUS<br>RELEVANCE for<br>prelims and Mains                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Prelims: Current events of National and International importance.<br><br>Mains: General Studies Paper III: Inclusive growth and issues arising from it. Government Budgeting                                                                                                                                          |
| Important concepts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Goods and Services Tax (GST)<br>6th Goods and Services Tax (GST) Day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p align="center"><b>Prelims PYQ Exercise-Find answer</b></p> <p><b>Q.</b> Consider the following items: [2018]</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cereal grains hulted</li> <li>2. Chicken eggs cooked</li> <li>3. Fish processed and canned</li> <li>4. Newspaper containing advertising material</li> </ol> <p>Which of the above items is/are exempted under GST (Goods and Services Tax)?</p> <p>(a) 1 only                      (b) 2 and 3 only<br/>(c) 1, 2 and 4 only        (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <p align="center"><b>Today's prelims practice question:</b></p> <p>What was the vision of the 6th GST day celebrated on 1st July 2023?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

- a) GST@6 सरलीकृत कर, समग्र विकास (Simplified Tax Holistic Development)
- b) GST@6 न्यायपूर्ण कर, समृद्ध विकास (Fair Tax Prosperous Development)
- c) GST@6 लघु कर, लघु उद्योग (Small Tax Small Industry)
- d) GST@6 पारदर्शी कर, पारदर्शी विकास (Transparent Tax Transparent Development)

Answer: a

Explanation:

GST@6 सरलीकृत कर, समग्र विकास (Simplified Tax Holistic Development) –

It is the vision of the 6th GST day celebrated on 1st July 2023. It means that GST has simplified the tax system by removing multiple taxes and implementing the concept of One Nation One Tax. It also means that GST has contributed to the holistic development of the country by reducing the tax burden on consumers, benefiting the MSME sector, enhancing the ease of doing business, and increasing the revenue collection.

|                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| <b>Mains PYQ exercise:</b>              | Explain the rationale behind the Goods and Services Tax (Compensation to States) Act of 2017. How has COVID-19 impacted the GST compensation fund and created new federal tensions? (Answer in 250 words) 15 (2020) |
| <b>Today's mains practice question:</b> | Evaluate the performance and outcomes of GST regime in India since its introduction in 2017. What are the areas of improvement and reform to make it more efficient and effective?                                  |

## DETAILED EXPLANATION OF IMPORTANT CONCEPTS

### Goods and Services Tax (GST) :

- GST is a comprehensive indirect tax on the manufacture, sale, and consumption of goods and services throughout India. It replaces the respective taxes levied by the central and state governments.

- GST is a destination-based taxation system that is calculated only on the value addition at any stage of goods or services. It aims to make India a unified market and avoid the cascading effect of taxes.
- GST is levied by the Centre as Central GST (CGST) and by the States as State GST (SGST). For inter-state trade, Integrated GST (IGST) is levied by the Centre in addition to the applicable customs duties.
- GST rates are decided by the GST Council, which is a constitutional body chaired by the Union Finance Minister and comprising representatives of all states and union territories.
- GST was introduced by the 101st Constitutional Amendment Act in 2016, after a long process of deliberations and negotiations since 2000. It came into effect from July 1, 2017.
- GST has several benefits for the economy, such as creating a common national market, reducing tax burden on consumers, making Indian products more competitive, enhancing tax compliance, and boosting revenue collection

## 6th Goods and Services Tax (GST) Day

- 6th Goods and Services Tax (GST) Day is an annual observance on 1st July to commemorate the implementation of the GST system, a comprehensive indirect tax levied on the supply of goods and services in India. This year marks the 6th anniversary of GST coming into force on 1st July 2017.
- The 6th GST Day was celebrated with the vision GST@6 सरलीकृत कर, समग्र विकास (Simplified Tax Holistic Development) with Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman presiding over as the Chief Guest and Union Minister of State for Finance Shri Pankaj Chaudhary as the Guest of Honour.

## MODEL MAINS ANSWER FOR TODAY'S EXPECTED MAINS QUESTION

**Q. Discuss the significance and challenges of the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission in India. How can it be made more effective and inclusive? (15 marks)**

### Why this question

The question theme is reflected several times in UPSC (including prelims) and APPSC mains.

|                                                                                      | <p><b>UPSC PYQs</b></p> <p>Appropriate local community-level healthcare intervention is a prerequisite to achieve “Health for All” in India. Explain (2018)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |           |         |  |                                                                                                                                    |  |                                                                                                                                              |  |                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <p><u><a href="#">First step is to understand the demand of the question</a></u></p> | <p>Question has two parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Significance and challenges of the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission in India</li> <li>2. How can it be made more effective and inclusive.</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |           |         |  |                                                                                                                                    |  |                                                                                                                                              |  |                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p><b>Introduction</b></p>                                                           | <p>Sickle cell disease (SCD) is a genetic blood disorder that affects the shape and function of red blood cells, causing various symptoms and complications. It is more common in the tribal population of India, which constitutes 8.6% of the total population. To address this pressing health challenge, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission (NSCAEM) in 2023</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |           |         |  |                                                                                                                                    |  |                                                                                                                                              |  |                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p><b>Body</b></p>                                                                   | <p><b>The significance and benefits of the NSCAEM are:</b></p> <table> <tr> <th>Dimension</th><th>Content</th></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>It will improve the health and quality of life of SCD patients by reducing morbidity, mortality and disability due to the disease.</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>It will reduce the burden of the disease on the society and economy by preventing loss of productivity, income and human capital due to SCD.</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>It will promote equity and human rights by ensuring access to affordable and quality health care services to all SCD patients irrespective of their socio-economic status, caste or gender.</td></tr> </table> | Dimension | Content |  | It will improve the health and quality of life of SCD patients by reducing morbidity, mortality and disability due to the disease. |  | It will reduce the burden of the disease on the society and economy by preventing loss of productivity, income and human capital due to SCD. |  | It will promote equity and human rights by ensuring access to affordable and quality health care services to all SCD patients irrespective of their socio-economic status, caste or gender. |
| Dimension                                                                            | Content                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |           |         |  |                                                                                                                                    |  |                                                                                                                                              |  |                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                                                      | It will improve the health and quality of life of SCD patients by reducing morbidity, mortality and disability due to the disease.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |           |         |  |                                                                                                                                    |  |                                                                                                                                              |  |                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                                                      | It will reduce the burden of the disease on the society and economy by preventing loss of productivity, income and human capital due to SCD.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |           |         |  |                                                                                                                                    |  |                                                                                                                                              |  |                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                                                      | It will promote equity and human rights by ensuring access to affordable and quality health care services to all SCD patients irrespective of their socio-economic status, caste or gender.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |           |         |  |                                                                                                                                    |  |                                                                                                                                              |  |                                                                                                                                                                                             |

|                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>It will contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 3 (Good health and well-being) by reducing maternal mortality ratio (MMR), under-five mortality rate (U5MR), neonatal mortality rate (NMR) and premature mortality from non-communicable diseases (NCDs) due to SCD.</p> |         |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |                                                                                                                                               |  |  |
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| <p><b>Some measures and recommendations to make the NSCAEM more effective and inclusive (NPS)</b></p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |         |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |                                                                                                                                               |  |  |
|                                                                                                       | <table><tr><th>Dimension</th><th>Content</th></tr><tr><td></td><td><p>Involving community participation, especially of tribal leaders, women, youth and SCD patients in planning, implementation and monitoring of the NSCAEM activities to ensure ownership, accountability and sustainability.</p></td></tr><tr><td></td><td><p>Strengthening primary health care, especially at the sub-centre and primary health centre levels, by providing adequate manpower, equipment, drugs and blood products for screening, diagnosis and management of SCD patients.</p></td></tr><tr><td></td><td><p>Enhancing capacity building of health care providers at all levels of care by conducting regular training, orientation and refresher courses on SCD using online and offline modes.</p></td></tr><tr><td></td><td><p>Promoting research and innovation in SCD by encouraging collaboration among academic institutions, research organizations and industry</p></td></tr></table> | Dimension                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Content |  | <p>Involving community participation, especially of tribal leaders, women, youth and SCD patients in planning, implementation and monitoring of the NSCAEM activities to ensure ownership, accountability and sustainability.</p> |  | <p>Strengthening primary health care, especially at the sub-centre and primary health centre levels, by providing adequate manpower, equipment, drugs and blood products for screening, diagnosis and management of SCD patients.</p> |  | <p>Enhancing capacity building of health care providers at all levels of care by conducting regular training, orientation and refresher courses on SCD using online and offline modes.</p> |  | <p>Promoting research and innovation in SCD by encouraging collaboration among academic institutions, research organizations and industry</p> |  |  |
| Dimension                                                                                             | Content                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |         |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |                                                                                                                                               |  |  |
|                                                                                                       | <p>Involving community participation, especially of tribal leaders, women, youth and SCD patients in planning, implementation and monitoring of the NSCAEM activities to ensure ownership, accountability and sustainability.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |         |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |                                                                                                                                               |  |  |
|                                                                                                       | <p>Strengthening primary health care, especially at the sub-centre and primary health centre levels, by providing adequate manpower, equipment, drugs and blood products for screening, diagnosis and management of SCD patients.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |         |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |                                                                                                                                               |  |  |
|                                                                                                       | <p>Enhancing capacity building of health care providers at all levels of care by conducting regular training, orientation and refresher courses on SCD using online and offline modes.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |         |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |                                                                                                                                               |  |  |
|                                                                                                       | <p>Promoting research and innovation in SCD by encouraging collaboration among academic institutions, research organizations and industry</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |         |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |                                                                                                                                               |  |  |

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|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
|                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | partners to develop new diagnostic methods, treatment modalities and preventive strategies for SCD.                                                                                                                               |  |
|                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Creating a supportive environment for SCD patients by sensitizing the community, media, policy makers and other stakeholders about the disease and its implications and by eliminating stigma, discrimination and myths about SCD |  |
| <b>Conclusion:</b> | The NSCAEM is a commendable initiative by the government to address this challenge by improving care of all SCD patients and lowering the prevalence of the disease. However, there are many challenges and limitations that need to be overcome to make the mission more effective and inclusive. By adopting various measures and recommendations suggested above, India can achieve its vision of eliminating SCD as a public health problem by 2047. This will not only improve the health and well-being of millions of SCD patients but also contribute to the overall development of the nation |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |