

## 1 Sickle Cell Disease (Source: PIB)

*It is an inherited blood disorder caused by a defective cell called the sickle cell gene.*

### Effect

- It affects hemoglobin, the molecule in red blood cells that delivers oxygen to cells throughout the body.
- People with this disease have atypical hemoglobin molecules called hemoglobin S, which can distort red blood cells into a sickle, or crescent, shape.

### Symptoms:

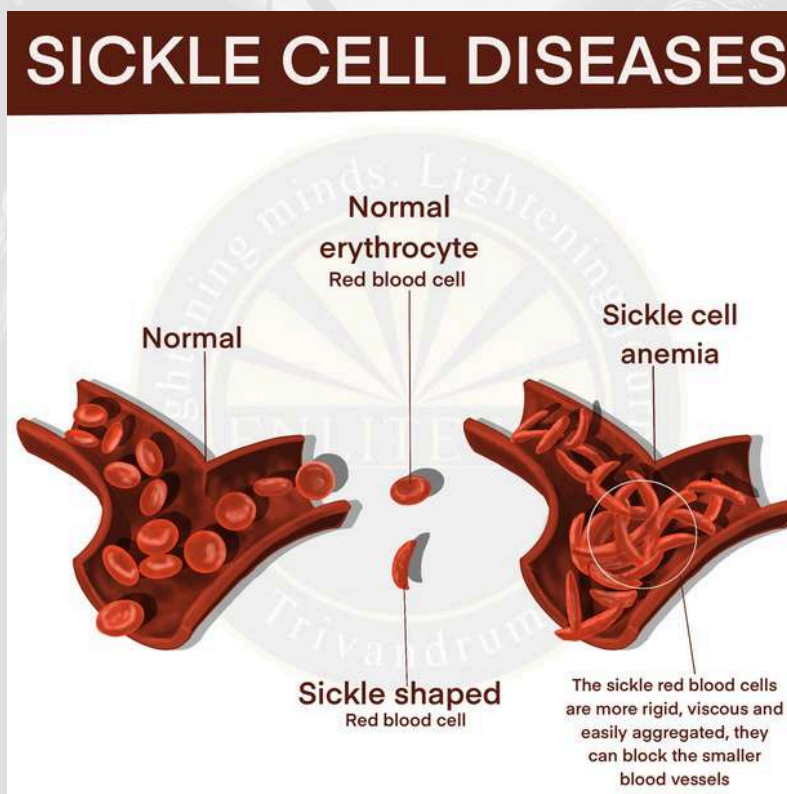
- **Early stage:** Extreme tiredness or fussiness from anemia, painfully swollen hands and feet, and jaundice.
- **Later stage:** Severe pain, anemia, organ damage, and infections.

### Diagnosis

- Solubility test / Dithionite test
- Hemoglobin electrophoresis
- HPLC (High-Performance Liquid Chromatography)
- Genetic testing (for prenatal diagnosis)

### Treatments

- The only cure for this disease is bone marrow or stem cell transplantation.





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## 2 Financial Action Task Force (FATF) (Source: The Hindu)

***FATF is a global money laundering and terror financing watchdog setup in 1989.***

### **Launch**

- It is launched by G7 countries at Paris.

### **Headquarter:**

- The FATF Secretariat is located at the OECD headquarters in Paris.

### **Functions:**

- FATF's main role is to review money laundering and terrorist financing techniques and improve its standards to address new risks, such as regulating virtual assets like cryptocurrencies.
- FATF also monitors countries to ensure they fully implement the FATF Standards and takes action against those that do not comply.

### **FATF Sessions:**

- The decision-making body of FATF is called the FATF Plenary, which meets three times a year.

### **Membership:**

- It is a 39-member body representing most major financial centres in all parts of the globe.
- India joined with 'observer' status in 2006 and became a full member of FATF in 2010.

### **Listing:**

- The **Grey List** includes countries that are considered safe haven for supporting terror funding and money laundering.
- The **Black List** includes Non-Cooperative Countries or Territories (NCCTs) that support terror funding and money laundering activities. As of now, **Iran, North Korea and Myanmar** are the three black listed countries.

## 3 Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve (Source: The Indian Express)

- **Location:** Chhattisgarh
- **Associated River:** The Udanti River flows through the Reserve.
- **Topography:** The topography of the area is a broken mass of land traversed by innumerable hill ranges, intercepted by strips of plains.
- **Vegetation:** Dry Deciduous Forests, Tropical and Sub-Tropical vegetation
- **Fauna:** Tiger, Asiatic Wild Buffalo, Indian Wolf, Leopard, Sloth Bear, and Mouse Deer

