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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2830 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH MARCH, 2018

INVESTMENT IN TB R&D

2830. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government needs to invest more in tuberculosis research and development to meet the global targets;

(b) whether it is also a fact that tuberculosis vaccine was a global public health good which meant Government needs to invest if they want to own it later; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) & (b): Yes.

(c): In order to accelerate the fight against TB and achieve TB elimination by 2025, ICMR under Department of Health Research has taken the initiative for setting up of India TB research Consortium' (ITRC), which will take the lead in bringing together all the National & International organizations working in the area of TB research and support the development and of the promotion of new innovation to meet wider needs. This has been set up as an interactive Mission Mode Program (MMP) with an aim to ensure that research is promoted.