

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1020
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND NOVEMBER, 2019**

CANCER RESEARCH INITIATIVE

1020. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:

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

- (a) whether India-UK cancer research initiative provides an opportunity to tackle the global epidemic of cancer by opening new pathways for international knowledge exchange and research base;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the investment proposed by both the countries in this initiative?

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

(a) to (c): Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India and Cancer Research UK (CRUK) Bilateral Initiative on “Affordable Approaches to Cancer” has identified core set of seven research challenges that address issues pertaining to epidemics, affordability, prevention and care of cancer. The seven research challenges identified are:

1. Identify and quantify cancer risk factors to better understand regional variations in incidence, enabling new approaches to cancer prevention.
2. Devise affordable screening tools to improve early detection of cancer.
3. Identify affordable approaches to improve early diagnosis of symptomatic cancers.
4. Develop computational approaches that can reduce the cost of cancer care delivery.
5. Identify novel affordable treatment approaches for hard to treat cancers using small molecules.
6. Improve the affordability of effective cancer treatments.
7. Develop approaches to improve long-term quality of life in children and young people with cancer.

DBT and CRUK have partnered to launch a £ 10 million (£ 5 million each), i.e. Rs. 90 Cr (Rs. 45 Cr each), 5 year research initiative focused on finding affordable approaches to cancer.