

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:813  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2008  
DEVELOPMENT OF DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL TECHNIQUES  
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

**Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether any agreement has been signed between India and USA for developing diagnostic medical techniques at low prices; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of budgetary provisions made for the purpose?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir, a joint statement of agreement was signed between Department of Biotechnology, M/o Science & Technology, Govt. of India and National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB), Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute of Health (NIH), USA on the development of "Low Cost, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Medical Technologies" on 4th October, 2007 signed by Secretary, Department of Biotechnology and Director, NIBIB, NIH, USA. The areas of cooperation proposed are: to develop joint proposals for low-cost biomedical imaging technologies; low-cost, point-of-care diagnostic technologies for disease areas of greatest need; telehealth; health-related information technologies and telecommunications; and Neonatal health technologies for small and mid-size hospitals. Department is planning to organize a joint workshop to implement the strategy.