

BIOCON TO MAKE CANCER DRUG WITH CUBAN FIRM

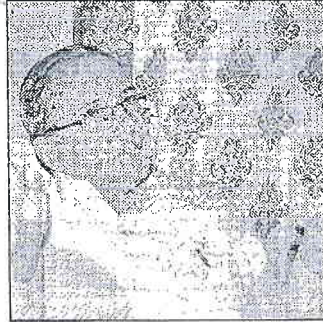
# Battling cancer

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Cuban Ambassador Abelardo Cueto Sosa today said that Indian firm Biocon of Kiran Mazumdar Shaw from Bengaluru is manufacturing a cancer drug in a joint venture with a Cuban company.

Biocon subsidiary company Biocon SA, had entered into a definitive agreement to acquire 49% equity stake in Biocon Biopharmaceuticals (BBPL) and the Cuban pharmaceutical joint venture between Biocon and CIMAB SA.

With acquisition of a 49% stake, Biocon and



CIMAB are focussing on the joint development of novel biologics led by its most promising program T1h (Anti-CD6 Monoclonal antibody) which has just entered phase-III clinical trials in Psoriasis.

The ambassador said the cancer drugs which are for lung cancer and

cirrhosis are mainly exported to Latin American nations.

At a meet in the Press Club of India, he spoke on a wide range of issues from Cuba-US relations to non-alignment and for stepping up cooperation in the sphere of wind and solar energy.

On the recent thawing of relations with the US after almost over five decades, the ambassador said relations could be improved between the two countries with the US returning land currently occupied by its naval base at Guantanamo Bay and lifting economic sanctions.

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