

## Keenly anticipate an equal impetus on innovation and R&D: Novartis India

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**Sanjay Murdeshwar, Country President and Managing Director, Novartis India**



*“The Union Budget as laid out by FM Nirmala Sitharaman highlights the Government’s nuanced approach towards strengthening the country’s response to public health crises. We believe that the most effective way to provide access to healthcare delivery to a large footprint of our population is accelerated digital technology. We laud the thrust on digital health mission and various digital-first initiatives as we believe that these will help us leapfrog in providing access to healthcare to many more patients in India.*”

*While the budget is in line to support the growth and recovery of the Indian economy while keeping the overall policy stability and fiscal discipline, we keenly anticipate an equal impetus on innovation and R&D. We all witnessed the acceleration in pharmaceutical innovation over the course of the pandemic. Policies attracting future investments in R&D and retaining world-class talent in the country is critical to make India aatmanirbhar.”*