

India marks pharmaceuticals and healthcare exhibition - iPHEX 2014

BY ALLY MUHIDIN, RECENTLY FROM MUMBAI

One of the largest showcase of Indian pharmaceutical products and technologies to a global audience has been marked from 21st – 23rd May, 2014 at Bombay Exhibition Centre. This is an exhibition that brings together the drugs, pharmaceutical and healthcare industry – all under one roof.

With over 500 global companies and regulators participating in the 'iPHEX 2014' from different corner of the world, the exhibition was an international exposition showing the country's manufacturing strength and reinforcement standing as a dependable and affordable generics pharmacy of the world.

In the three-day event, key partners of India's pharmaceutical industry participated with Delegates from about 125 countries along with over a score of global regulatory and media professionals to highlight the growth drivers, government support, regulatory framework, cost efficiencies and technical capabilities in the sector.

Speaking during the inauguration of this Exhibition, the Chairman of Pharmexcil Mr. Ashutosh Gupta said that the 'iPHEX 2014' is very timely in the sense that comes close on the heels of certain developments when doubts were raised over quality of generics of some of the Indian pharma majors manufacturing facilities.

As was highlighted by various agencies, the problem whatever they arose generally related to the documentation work and not to the standards of quality of generics. Adding that even in the area of compliance of global best practices on the documentation work, the Indian companies are taking up seriously by attending to work shops where experts from reputed global agencies are sharing their experiences.

He said the Indian generics reach almost all corners of the



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Narrating that the Indian pharmaceutical industry widely spread across Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh and other parts of India has several milestones to its credit and globally about 90 per cent of formulations approvals for anti-retroviral (ARVs), anti-tubercular and anti-malarial (WHO pre-qualified) have been granted to India.

world with over 50 per cent of exports of the USD 16.0 billion being shipped to the highly regulated markets including US, EU countries and Japan too

holds a big potential for Indian pharma Sector.

Business orders worth several hundred thousand are expected to be bagged by India exhibitors of drugs and also the manufacturers of drug-making machinery at the exhibition as the country has also emerged as an international manufacturer of the Pharma machinery for production of pharmaceutical products, Director General of the Pharmexcil, Dr P V Appaji said.

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The Chairman of the iPHEX Organising Committee Mr. Bhavin Mehta emphasized during this exhibition that India exports medicines to the developing world-Africa and ASEAN and the Latin American countries. “We could not reach LAC earlier due to geographical limitations but now we are equipped to bring LAC in our export radar,” he said.

Going far that in the area of vaccines (DPT & BCG) one out of three doses administered globally is Indian origin and supplies are made to 150 countries. “Likewise about 80% procurement by global NGOs like the Clinton Foundation, Bill

Indian government officials during the opening of the iPHEX 2014 Exhibition. Picture by Ally Muhidin

Gates Foundation, UNCTAD and the World Health Organization are from India”, he said

He said as much as 26-27 out of 30 WHO pre qualified supply of ANTI RETROVIRALS (for HIV Patients) and ANTI-TUBERCULAR and ANTI-MALARIAL are from India. The cost of HIV disease in Africa which was about USD 10,000, in the past has now come down to about 60 USD with availability of generics.

iPHEX is a show organized by PHARMEXCIL (Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India – set up by Ministry of Commerce and Industry of Government of India) that brings forward the benefits and solutions of the pharmaceutical sector, including the medical, hospital, drugs and surgical segments.

Starpeco brings on new technologies in support of BRN Initiative

BY STAFF WRITER

STARPECO, a locally registered and privately owned firm has registered growth and diversification in her two new businesses namely bitumen and security products.

The firm which in the 2013/14 Top 100 Mid-Sized Companies survey conducted by KPMG was ranked 11th and is currently

in the final stages of installing ultra-modern bitumen emulsion processing plant and working towards introducing modern inspection and security technologies in the country.

“We are on course in our business diversification strategy in which we are seeking to maintain our share as a top quality bitumen supplier in the local market, have significant

involvement in processing of bitumen and its allied products and get hand in airports, sea ports and key building entrance and exit safety by supplying top quality non-intrusive inspection security systems (scanners),” explained STARPECO Managing Director, Gratian Nshekanabo.

Starpeco is in the final stages of constructing Bitumen Emulsion

plant, the first of its kind in Tanzania that will be producing internationally recommended environmental friendly bitumen for road construction and allied products serving not only Tanzanian market but also East and Central Africa Market outreaching countries such as Uganda, DRC, Rwanda, Burundi, Zambia and Malawi.

The production is set to commence in early May, 2014. The new plant will be processing 10 tonnes of emulsion-bitumen per hour.

Nshekanabo revealed that the total cost of importing and installing the new plant stands at about USD 2m/- (Tshs. 3.2bn/-). The plant will provide 18 permanent and over 100 indirect jobs.