

Press Release

Eight major research oriented national pharmaceutical companies had come together in October 1999 to form an association to be known as Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA). Zydus Cadila has since joined the alliance, raising its strength to nine. They collectively represent over 25% of domestic market and have a substantial share of the pharmaceutical exports out of India and a sizeable investment in R&D facilities.

The main aims of the IPA are:

- Partnering the government in the evolution of a patent regime that will on the one hand meet the TRIPs obligations and on the other serve national interest;
- Engaging the government in constructive dialogue to move to price management from price control regime for the benefit of the consumer; and
- Working with the government in progressively upgrading regulatory provisions, procedures and standards for harmonization with those of the developed markets.

The pace of reforms in the pharmaceutical industry in India is beginning to accelerate. This will result in increased competition in the domestic market besides offering greater opportunities for Indian companies in the international market. This transition will require an upgradation of regulatory and price management framework in India, as also better prepare Indian companies to be competitive in the international arena.

The Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance, working closely with Government on policy related matters, will seek to imbibe the experiences of the generic pharmaceutical industry internationally. It will seek affiliation with the International Generic Pharmaceutical Association (IGPA) located at Brussels which represents Generic Pharmaceutical Industry of Europe, Canada and US. This Association of more than 500 International Companies collectively represents a significant cross-section of the global pharmaceutical industry. The main objective of IGPA is to promote international pharmaceutical harmonization and regulatory decisions in a way that will benefit the public and strengthen the industry.

The nine companies which have come forward to form this association are Alembic, Cipla, Dr Reddy's Lab, Lupin, Nicholas Piramal, Ranbaxy, Sun Pharmaceutical, Wockhardt and Zydus Cadila.

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