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Teachers should have good knowledge of drug development through exposure to industry practices: Expert

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Saturday, March 20, 2021, 08:00 Hrs [IST]

Teachers should have a good knowledge of drug development through exposure to industry practices, which will help students learn better, stated Ganadhish Kamat, global head of quality, Dr Reddy's Laboratories.

Kamat added that they are tying up with Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) to improve the quality of pharmacy education in the country.

"If you see in India, there is hardly any collaboration in pharmaceutical industry unlike in western countries as there are various innovations from industry. There will be few institutions which work for the industry in India, but there is lot of scope for collaborations. Industry can provide infrastructure to institutions for training to teachers and provide industry exposure to students. We need to have pilot facilities in the institutions/medical colleges which are relevant to the industry today," stated Kamat.

Kamat added, "India has become hub for pharmaceutical industry and there are various manufacturing facilities. The demand for skill people is very high, but the quality of education is not good."

"We have conducted survey on why institutions are not being developed. The major challenge is that there is no proper infrastructure and teachers does not have industry expertise and also there is a lack of regulatory knowledge and students not knowing proper concepts," added Kamat.

In terms of quality, Kamat added "Quality is very important for pharmaceutical industry. Our Indian drug rules are very old for pharmaceutical sector. There is need for complete overhaul of drug law."